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OPINION METER
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I N S I D E

NATION



President Obama declares: "Now is the time" to fix the immigration system.

► **PAGE 15**

ENVIRONMENT



American Samoa gets a \$269,000 grant to conserve coastal wetlands.

► **PAGE 17**

LIFE & STYLE



"30 Rock" produces one last installment of its show-within-a-show.

► **PAGE 18**

Mobil's regular gas up 10 cents anew on Saipan. **PAGE 3**
Agulto is Mount Carmel's Teacher of the Year. **PAGE 7**

AS U.S. TACKLES IMMIGRATION REFORM

Kilili: Difficult decisions ahead

» Delegate to ask for transition extension, improved status for aliens

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) said there are difficult decisions that have to be made for the good of the CNMI and the nation, "whether the issue is gun control to make our citizens safer, or immigration reform to make citizens of those who contribute to our society, whether to tax more or less, to spend more or less," during a ceremonial oath-taking speech yesterday.

RELATED NEWS

► Obama on immigration overhaul: 'Now is the time' **PAGE 15**



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona, right, administers the oath of office to Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), left, at yesterday's ceremonial swearing in at Marianas High School's gymnasium, for the delegate's third term in office. Sablan's wife Andrea looks on, while his mother Victorina holds the Bible.

See KILILI on **Page 4**

Fitia! weighs US immigration reform's impact on NMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitia! said yesterday he has to weigh the impacts of the renewed national immigration reform discussions on the CNMI, where he said there are also "few thousands illegals" versus the 12 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S. mainland.

"We need to work with our own situation for we only have few thousands illegals versus 12 mil-

lion illegals. We need to take it in that context so that we can take advantage, okay, so if they are going to provide special assistance and benefits to those 12 million illegals in the United States, I think we deserve more," Fitia! told reporters during the public investiture of Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan.

See FITIAL on **Page 4**



18 articles clear impeachment panel

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A special committee reviewing a resolution impeaching Gov. Benigno R. Fitia! approved the rest of the 18 allegations of corruption, neglect of duty, and felony at 4:22pm yesterday, and a full House of Representatives vote is expected next week.

The Special Investigating Committee on Impeachment chaired by Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan) adopted eight articles yesterday.

"With all the 18 articles adopted by the committee, we're looking at giving one

day for the Legislative Bureau to work on the report and one day for committee members to review the report before presenting it to the speaker. So we might have a full House vote by Thursday or Friday next week," Sablan said in an interview after the committee wrapped up its deliberations yesterday.

He said it is important that the House presents a product that will be used as evidence once the impeachment process moves to the Senate for trial.

All the 16 House leadership members signed as co-sponsors of the impeachment resolution, more than enough to

See IMPEACHMENT on **Page 4**

» **Full House vote next week**



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Local

Police: No foul play behind man's death

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Police investigators have ruled out foul play in the death of a man whose decomposing body was found inside his apartment room in Garapan Tuesday afternoon.

CPA says claim for Outer Cove Marina 'complicated'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Any plan by the Commonwealth Ports Authority to take over the operation of Outer Cove Marina is complicated by the involved court litigation and mediation on the issue, according to CPA board member Benigno Sablan.

Speaking during last week's board meeting, Sablan said that once CPA is granted authority over the marina, it will have to fulfill some obligations to businessman Anthony Pellegrino, whose company, Marine Revitalization Corp., built the marina.

MRC built the Outer Cove Marina for \$3.5 million in 1995. Under an agreement with the government, the NMI government was supposed to pay MRC \$800,000 and allow the company to recoup its construction cost from those using the slip docks. The government later reneged on its obligation. Pellegrino sued and was awarded a judgment that now stands at \$8.5 million, including inter-

est. Despite the trial court order, the CNMI government has yet to pay MRC.

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources currently has responsibility over the marina after the approval of the submerged land lease agreement between MRC and the CNMI government.

"There's some attachment to it...meaning if CPA will take over [the marina], whatever resources we make we have to pay Pellegrino," said Sablan.

Sablan, the board's seaport facilities committee chairman, also disclosed that CPA's request for control of the submerged lands around the Saipan seaport is also tied with the issue on the Outer Cove Marina.

"Here's the deal with DLNR Secretary [Arnold Palacios]: He will not give us the submerged land unless we take over the Outer Cove Marina. So we need to wait for our counsel's [Robert Torres] expert advice," said Sablan.

CPA is in the process of getting the grant of public domain

not only for the Outer Cove Marina but also for the land between the Army Reserve facility and the marina. Once the transfer is complete, CPA will be responsible for entering contracts with boat owners, assessing fees, inking consignment agreements, and enforcing regulations.

Sablan disclosed that CPA asked DLNR the grant for public domain on these areas some three years ago. This proposal, despite securing the then concurrence of the prior DPL administration, did not prosper.

He said CPA is seeking public domain rights on the property so that CPA can develop and earn revenue from it. Since the law requires legislative approval for more than five hectares of public domain, CPA does not expect any difficulties in getting the concurrence of DPL, DLNR, and the Executive Branch.

Sablan said that Torres is now preparing the language for the proposed agreement for board review and action.

Acting police spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. said yesterday that the victim's cause of death was of natural causes.

He described the victim as a 67-year-old African-American.

"Due to the manner of death of the victim, his identity is withheld. The Criminal Investigation Bureau is currently working to notify the next of kin," Blas said.

On Tuesday at 1:23pm, patrol officers were dispatched to an emergency call at Annie's Apartment complex located across the Chinen Ice Candy factory along Puti Nubio Avenue.

According to preliminary investigation conducted by patrol and CIB personnel, a maintenance worker for the apartment was doing repairs when he noticed a foul smell coming from one of the apartment units. He then peeped through the sliding door and saw the victim lying in bed.

The caretaker reportedly noticed blood on the floor near the bed and saw that the victim's feet were already purple.

Blas said that patrol and CIB personnel gained access to the victim's room with the assistance of the landlord. The body was found to be in an advanced

stage of decomposition.

Crime scene technicians and CIB detectives processed the scene and did an investigation.

Guam's chief medical examiner, Dr. Aurelio Espinola, did an autopsy on the victim Tuesday night. Espinola ruled that the victim died "due to cardiac tamponade due to a ruptured aorta," Blas said.

Blas said that Espinola did not observe any injuries on the body.

"Case is now closed and will be forwarded to the Office of the Attorney General for final disposition," the acting spokesman said.

MTEC expands support to MY WAVE clubs

The Marianas Tourism Education Council held its first meeting of the new year on Jan. 24, with a renewed commitment to supporting the growing number of school MY WAVE (Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) clubs.

MTEC chair Vicky Benavente reported that Tinian Jr./Sr. High School has revived its MY WAVE Club following a visit by MTEC late last year. The club has an initial nine members and has already undertaken a number of activities, including a tour of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, a beach cleanup, and fundraising activities.

"Having Tinian Elementary back on board with MY WAVE is great news for us," said Benavente. "As part of its education mandate, the MTEC board has also reaffirmed its financial commitment to MY WAVE Club during last week's meeting

by defining more way to support the club advisers, specifically for their diligent efforts."

Currently, MTEC provides \$200 seed money to schools starting a MY WAVE Club. In addition, schools that actively participate in MTEC-sanctioned events, such as airport greetings and island beautification projects, may also request funding supports. In Thursday's board meeting, MTEC voted to provide \$100 a month for recognized advisers of MY WAVE Club who meet specific performance goals in a month.

"When the young people are educated, engaged, and excited about tourism, there is hope and a future for our industry," said Benavente. "The advisers are an important part of that process, and MTEC is prepared to provide support for these partners, many of whom often spend out-of-pocket money for the clubs

they assist."

The MY WAVE Club Adviser Incentive Program requires: 1) at least 15 MY WAVE Club members, at least two club meetings in the month documented with minutes, at least one club activity in the month, and participation in MTEC fundraising events. The maximum allowable incentive is \$600 a year. The incentive is available for one adviser at the elementary level and up to three advisers in the junior/senior high level.

Schools interested in availing of the MY WAVE Club startup seed fund, financial support through MTEC-sanctioned events, or the Adviser Incentive Program may contact Marianas Visitors Authority Community Projects manager Martin Duenas at mduenas@mymarianas.com for more information. (MVA)

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Marianas Tourism Education Council chair Vicky Benavente, center, refers to the Northern Mariana Islands Strategic Tourism Initiatives plan during the MTEC board meeting on Jan. 24, 2013, at the Marianas Visitors Authority office in San Jose, Saipan. Pictured from left are MTEC board member Larry Lee, secretary Chris Lubi, Benavente, MVA Community Projects specialist Frank Tudela, and MTEC members Jenn Castro and Monica Pangelinan.



Members of the revived Tinian Jr./Sr. High MY WAVE Club pose for an informal photo during their Oct. 19, 2012, tour of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, where they learned about hotel operations. Pictured from left are Billy Borja, Nikki Ayuyu, Mariana Cruz, Ria Borja, Shalleine Dosalia, Anica Delacruz, Robin Reyes, Shantel Cruz, and Rosalia Manlulu.

Mobil's regular gas up 10 cents anew on Saipan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Saipan motorists have to pay more again for a gallon of gas following Mobil Oil Marianas' pump price increase of 10 cents a gallon on Tuesday night.

After a steady price of \$5 a gallon for several months, regular unleaded gasoline is now

back to \$5.10 a gallon at Mobil service stations on Saipan.

Super unleaded gasoline is now \$5.429 a gallon.

Diesel is \$5.419 a gallon. Ivan Blanco, Commerce deputy secretary, was surprised to learn that gas prices have gone up once again, as he was expecting regular gas to fall below \$5 a gallon.

"I already have everything budgeted. I was hoping prices would go down. I guess I have to change my driving habit," Blanco told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview while he was filling his Toyota Highlander at the Mobil-Sadog Tasi service station.

He said the \$20.25 gas he bought would last him two weeks because his house is near his workplace.

"But still, I was hoping the price would go down instead of go up. I feel more sorry for those who have to drive a long distance from their house to their job, they have to spend more on gas again," he said.

As of press time, Shell

Marianas has yet to change its prices. Shell and Mobil have historically reflected each other's price changes.

The two oil giants do not issue advance notices of price changes.

Mobil earlier said that prices of gasoline are determined by a number of factors, including changes in the world market wholesale prices of gasoline, regional gasoline supply and demand balance, transportation costs, insurance, local distribution, marketing costs, government regulations, taxes, competitive market forces, and investments in retail stations and distribution terminals.



A price display at Mobil-Sadog Tasi shows the latest gas prices after Tuesday night's 10-cent a gallon increase.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

MBA launches scholarship essay competition

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

To encourage more students to learn about the Bible, Marianas Baptist Academy recently launched a scholarship essay competition that will provide financial assistance of up to \$2,000 to qualified and deserving winners.

According to Leah Alfred, overall event coordinator, the competition is open to students who are currently enrolled at the institution for the 2013-2014 academic year. Members of the graduating Class of 2013 are also encouraged to join, as well as prospective MBA students who will register for the next academic year.

Alfred disclosed that each contender may have the chance to win a scholarship award of \$2,000 for first place; \$1,000 for second place; and \$500 for two third place. Upon winning, the awards will be credited to the student's tuition for academic year 2013-2014. Cash awards will be provided if winners are members of the graduating class. Alfred pointed out that cash refunds may not be requested upon withdrawal from MBA.

For interested students, essay must be hand delivered to MBA no later than 4pm on April 30. Winning entries will be notified by mail on May 10, 2013.

Alfred said that essays must cover at least two of the three topics for the competition. These include the following:

■ First, Dr. Bob Jones Sr. once said: "Education without salvation is damnation." How and why is this pertinent in our lives today?

■ Second, the King James Version of the Bible was completed in 1611. During the past century, many different versions of the Bible have emerged. Notably, in these versions, there have been many substitutions and deletions of words and phrases by the translators. However, can the King James Version of the Bible arguably be said to be a more accurate translation as opposed to the Revised Version, Revised Standard Version, New International Version, or any other English translation of the Bible? Why or why not?

■ Third, sin is disobedience to God's commandments. God is always willing to forgive and forgiveness of sin is a gift from God. However, can sin be forgiven in exchange for indulgence?

Alfred emphasized that essays must be the student's own work and must be written in English with a minimum of 250 words per topic.

This is the first time that MBA will conduct the competition and the school hopes to make it an annual event for students.

Car seat inspection, DUI checkpoints set

The Department of Public Safety will be conducting car seat and seat belt inspections this Friday, Feb. 1, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion on Beach Road, Susupe. The department's personnel have recently been certified or recertified by instructors from Hawaii and Guam. The training was held at Pacific Islands Club from Jan. 28 to Feb. 1. By attending these car seat inspections, parents and caregivers can be sure their kids are riding as safely as possible. The event is free to the public.

DPS Super Bowl

As part of the 2013 Super Bowl Drunk and Drugged Driving Enforcement operation, DPS will be conducting DUI/sobriety checkpoints on Feb. 4, from 1pm to 2:15pm on Beach Road, Susupe by the Ada Gym, and

from 4pm to 5:25pm, along Chalan Pale' Arnold Road in Chalan Laulau by the DHL Office.

Each checkpoint will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour and 15 minutes).

In addition, traffic and highway patrol officers will be conducting high visibility enforcement and laser (speed detection) enforcement in between these checkpoints. (DPS)

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4 Guam firms resolve EPA violations

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Four companies on Guam have resolved

failures to properly report the storage of hazardous materials.

The Environmental Protection Agency says each of the companies

has paid \$2,000 and corrected their violations by submitting reports listing qualities of hazardous chemicals they have stored.

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA's regional

administrator for the Pacific Southwest, says the reporting requirement is important because it allows local emergency planners and fire departments to be aware of hazardous materials stored in their communities.

The four companies are: The Westin Resort of Guam, Pepsi Cola Bottling Co. of Guam, Guam Waterworks Authority and Goodwin Development Corp.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS Class of '83 sets meeting

The MHS Class of 1983 would like to invite everyone to their general meeting on Friday, Feb. 8, 2013, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe, by the Civil Center Beach, at 7pm. If you have any question, call Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665. **(PR)**

Red Cross sets health and safety trainings

The American Red Cross is scheduled to conduct Preparedness Health & Safety training on the following dates:

■ Jan. 31 at 6pm: Adult CPR/AED Blended Learning

■ Feb. 2 at 8am: Adult CPR/AED

■ Feb. 5 at 5:30pm: First Aid Blended Learning

Classes are held at the chapter training room on Airport Road. Blended Learning courses involve online courses with in-person skills exam. Course fees apply. For more information on the courses listed or other certification courses, contact the chapter office at 234-3459. **(PR)**

SSHS sets half-day session

Southern High School will have a half-day session for Cluster Professional Development on Feb. 6, 2013. Students will be released at 1:05pm and the bus will pick up the students at 1:05pm. Students will attend all their classes and lunch will be served. For

more information, contact the administrative office at 237-3710. **(PR)**

FOA presents 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

It is nearly February, and time for the Friends of the Arts annual dinner theater for lovers and friends. This year Friends of the Arts is featuring one of the greatest of Shakespeare's comedies, *A Midsummer's Night Dream*. This year's Valentine's special can be watched at the Pacific Islands Club on the evenings of Feb. 14, 15 with a matinee on the 17th. **(PR)**

MHS class of '83 general meeting on Feb. 5

The Marianas High School class of

1983 will hold its general meeting on Feb. 5, 2013, 7pm at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion on the Civic Center Beach in Susupe. **(PR)**

Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

The U.S. Air Force is conducting training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla until Feb. 1, from 8am to 4pm. The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. **(PR)**

IMPEACHMENT

From Page 1

impeach the governor.

Only at least 14 “yes” votes are needed in the 20-member House to elevate the impeachment process to the Senate.

At yesterday's meeting that started past 1:30pm, the committee deliberated first on Article 15, a neglect of duty charge that they amended. This article is related to the governor's failure to appoint a Department of Public Safety commissioner for Senate confirmation beginning on or about April 26, 2012, until the prefiling of House Resolution 18-2 on Jan. 14, 2013.

By a vote of 5-0, Article 15, as amended, was adopted at 2:04pm.

The rest of the articles were adopted by a vote of 5-0 each.

Those voting yes to each of the eight articles yesterday were committee chair Sablan, Vice Speaker Frank Dela

Cruz (IR-Saipan), Rep. Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan), Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), and Rep. Cris Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan).

The four-member House minority bloc didn't replace Reps. Felicidad Ogomor (R-Saipan) and Teresita Santos (R-Rota) on the impeachment committee.

Article 12, a neglect of duty charge, was adopted at 2:33pm. This is related to the governor's failure to nominate members to serve on the Civil Service Commission from March 2006 to July 2012, in violation of the CNMI Constitution.

Next to be acted on was Article 13, also a neglect of duty charge, related to the governor's failure to appoint members to the Public Utilities Commission.

At 2:39pm, the panel also adopted Article 14, also a neglect of duty charge, for the governor's failure to appoint a CNMI Supreme Court justice on or about October 2011 until the pre-

filing of the impeachment resolution on Jan. 14.

Members discussed at length Article 9, a corruption charge, related to the governor's signing of a no-bid \$190.8 million power purchase agreement for 25 years.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (IR-Saipan) said the governor “admitted he made mistakes” related to the PPA during his recent State of the Commonwealth Address. He added that the governor said he had taken the advice of the former attorney general in signing the PPA.

“He signed off on the contract but he stated he's not at fault. He pointed at the former AG, now a fugitive. He's saying [former AG Edward Buckingham] was the culprit, that he made the governor sign it,” Dela Cruz said.

During discussions, Dela Cruz also believes that the governor will defend himself on other charges by saying “it's not my fault.”

Tebuteb, for his part, said “corrup-

tion shouldn't be tolerated.”

The committee adopted this corruption article at 2:59pm.

Minutes later, the panel reviewed video footage related to former attorney general Buckingham's attempts to shield himself—with the help of police and ports police officers—from service of a penal summons related to criminal charges filed against him by the Office of the Public Auditor.

Rep. Cris Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) said the “million words of the video” confirms the testimony of witnesses and documents presented by witnesses, supporting allegations of felony, corruption, and neglect of duty related to the AG-airport matter.

The committee proceeded to vote on Article 11, 6, and 4. The last vote was at 4:22pm, when the panel adopted Article 4, a felony charge.

Fitial can be impeached in the House and convicted in the Senate on any one of the 18 articles of felony, corruption, and neglect of duty.

KILILI

From Page 1

for the good of all of us for the Commonwealth.”

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona administered the oath of office to Sablan at a public investiture held at the Marianas High School gymnasium yesterday morning, with his wife Andrea and mother Victorina by his side.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, lawmakers, visiting U.S. Department of the Interior officials led by acting deputy assistant secretary for insular affairs Eileen Soback, Office of Insular Affairs director Nik Pula and other federal officials led the dignitaries at the ceremony.

Fitial said he's “very impressed” with Sablan's speech, and that's he's “very happy” to be at the event. Pula also welcomed Sablan's remarks.

Sablan serves a third term as the CNMI's first and so far only nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, amid renewed discussions about reforming the nation's broken immigration system.

This time, the Obama administration and many in Congress are seeing eye-to-eye on granting pathway to citizenship to more than 11 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S.

Sablan said his office has started working on ensuring that the CNMI is included in a national immigration reform bill.

“The devil is in the details,” he told *Saipan Tribune*. “We'd lose out if we're not included in this.”

Sablan supports granting improved immigration status to thousands of legal, long-term immigrant workers in the CNMI.

He hopes that they, too, will be granted pathway to citizenship at a time when the Obama administration and Congress want to give the same benefit to undocumented aliens in the mainland.

Sablan's ceremonial swearing in on Saipan comes hours after President Barack Obama, in a speech in Las Vegas, threw his full support behind a comprehensive overhaul of U.S. immigration laws, saying “now's the time” to replace a system he called “out of date and badly broken.”

'It does matter'

Before reading his prepared speech, Sablan asked for a moment of silence to pray for the CNMI's men and women in uniform who are about to be mobilized for deployment soon.

In his 14-minute speech, Sablan thanked the CNMI people for allowing him to continue to work for them in Congress.

His public investiture in the CNMI came 27 days after he and 440 other

members of the 113th U.S. House of Representatives took their oath in Washington, D.C.

“Significantly, those of us who take that oath do not swear to get whatever we can for our constituents...Instead we swear to uphold the Constitution—the Constitution—whose primary goal is not individual advancement, but rather a more perfect union of ‘We, the people,’ a nation, all together, with justice for all, secure and at peace, where everyone may prosper,” he said.

He said having a CNMI delegate in Congress “does matter,” contrary to what others may have said. He said, “It does matter to be part of our national government.”

“I know that even after the White House said: no more money for territories in the health care reform bill, I sat at the table with President Obama and more was added. And I know that those health care dollars—over \$100 million more—\$16 million paid over in just the last year and a half have helped to keep the Commonwealth Health Center open, perhaps saved a life,” he added.

Sablan won by landslide during the Nov. 6 midterm elections. He said he's humbled by that vote.

He said he “can see clearly the gap between what we have been able to accomplish and how much more work remains ahead—not only for the good of the Northern Mariana Islands, but for

the good of our nation as a whole.”

Right decisions

In his speech, which he started reading at 9:35am, Sablan cited examples of elected officials who made decisions they knew would be unpopular because they knew they were the “right decisions.”

He cited examples of those who refused to compromise their principles, including a lone Republican in the U.S. House that voted for the health care reform bill in 2009. Sablan said former Rep. Ahn “Joseph” Cao of Louisiana stood up in the face of all other Republicans to do what he thought was right.

“Joseph Cao lost re-election. But he will never lose my respect for his courage,” Sablan added.

He said today, at least, those elected in the CNMI in November “can feel secure because the will of the voters seems so clear.”

But he said all things are fleeting, “that there will come a day—and it won't be long—when any one of us will have to risk the displeasure of neighbors and friends.”

“We may have to choose to put the good of the Commonwealth ahead of what benefits Rota, or Tinian, or Saipan or the Northern Islands individually... We may have to put the long-term good of our nation ahead of any short-term gain for the people we represent. We

may risk your displeasure. We may risk our own political demise. But that is what you elected us to do,” he added.

Sablan added that the CNMI has his promise in “making judgments for the national good.”

“Whether the issue is gun control to make our citizens safer, or immigration reform to make citizens of those who contribute to our society, whether to tax more or less, to spend more or less—in all these policy debates I will remember the individual human beings affected,” he said.

He quoted his colleague Emanuel Cleaver who recently told him that government policy is a picture frame, and within that frame of policy he sees the face of each and every individual Americans.

“That image is meaningful to me. But it demonstrates the difficult decisions you have asked me to make. Weighing the good of the many against the interests of a few, the needs of today against the hope of tomorrow, balancing, choosing on your behalf, always seeing your faces before me, knowing every decision has a human cost,” he added.

Paula Gozon, 14, said one of the things she liked most about the delegate's remarks is that he will continue to help people.

“It was my first time to attend this kind of ceremony. I'm happy he will continue to help us,” Gozon added.

FITIAL

From Page 1

(Ind-MP) yesterday.

The governor said he has always maintained his position on illegal aliens.

“They are not contributing to the welfare of the people of the Commonwealth so we need alien workers that are skilled and I will continue to fight for those workers to remain,” he said.

When asked whether this time around he will support granting improved immigration status to long-term, legal and skilled alien workers in the CNMI, he said, “I have to weigh the advantages because if it will negatively impact the local community then that's an issue.”

He said he is not totally against the idea. However, he said he will “only accept what will benefit the local community.”

The delegate, meanwhile, has said while he supports granting improved immigration status to long-term legal aliens in the CNMI, he also would like to make sure the U.S. workers on the islands are not displaced.

U.S. Office of Insular Affairs Director Nik Pula, for his part, said there will be an opportunity for OIA to make recommendation on the issue of improved status.

He said OIA will revisit the Interior's May 2010 report to Congress recommending granting long-term legal aliens in the CNMI improved status including pathway to citizenship.

'Main problem with DPS drug enforcement is funding'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The main problem facing the Department of Public Safety's drug enforcement is funding, according to acting DPS commissioner Sgt. James C. Deleon Guerrero.

Deleon Guerrero, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* last week, said they need funding to pay informants and to buy drugs as evidence during sting operations.

At the moment, Deleon Guerrero said, there is no local budget that specifically affords such kind of drug operations.

"A lot of the money that comes in is from the federal funding," he added.

The acting commissioner said there are two drug task forces operating in the Commonwealth: the Drug Enforcement Administration and the CNMI level's Drug Enforcement Task Force that is composed of DPS, Customs, and

Office of the Attorney General. Some police officers are assigned to both task forces.

When asked how DPS maintains its relationship with DEA under his term, Deleon Guerrero said he does not see any problems working with federal and other CNMI government enforcement agencies.

He said he has been blessed with the opportunity early on in his police career working on a multidisciplinary approach.

"What I mean by this is that I was one of the few officers that worked with a number of different government agencies that got operations of MOU's [Memorandum of Understanding] or agreements that created task forces," he said.

In 2010, a joint Tinian police and DEA operation that resulted in the arrest of a police officer and two other men for "ice" trafficking upset DPS deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogu-moro, who accused DEA of

credit-grabbing.

Deleon Guerrero said dealing with DEA or other agen-

cies is more of setting up meetings and seeing how they can come up with common so-

lutions to common problems and work from there.

"I will not micromanage. I

would like to work at things in its totality and ask the hard questions and look at how we can best benefit our interest in terms of enforcing the law," he added.

Rota mayor pins hope on Guam-NMI commuter terminal

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola expressed optimism that there will be a commuter terminal for passengers between the CNMI and Guam.

Mendiola said it will "only be a matter of time" before the Guam Ports Authority provides space for the needed commuter terminal, which is expected to ease inter-island travel in the Marianas.

"We're waiting for that and it will really help us in air transportation," he said in an inter-

view. At present, Mendiola said, the commuter terminal for passengers from the CNMI going to Guam is integrated with international travelers.

Mendiola cited as an example Guam passengers traveling to Rota. He said that travel time between the two islands is estimated at 20 minutes but the lack of a separate commuter terminal for inter-island passengers forces these travelers to wait for two hours.

"It's unreasonable," he said.

"But if we establish this commuter terminal, then it's only going to be a 30-minute thing.

It won't be as prolonged as an international flight."

Mendiola said the opening of a commuter terminal in Guam has the support of the island's officials and was among the resolutions supported by the Association of the Mariana Islands' Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Elected Municipal Council Members in its November meeting.

The Rota mayor disclosed that he visited Guam over a week ago to meet with AMIM executive director Angel Sablan.

The weekend meeting, said

Mendiola, focused on the neighboring island's newly sworn in mayors who are now elected officers of the Mayor's Council of Guam.

The council officers are Agana Heights Mayor Paul McDonald, president; Sinajana Mayor Robert Hofmann, vice president; Agat Mayor Carol Tayama, secretary, Barrigada Mayor June Blas, treasurer; and Hagatna Mayor John Cruz, sergeant-at-arms.

With the new mayors on board, Mendiola said AMIM is likely to call a meeting to elect its own officers in March.

Jury selection for Weindl's trial continues

The U.S. District Court for the NMI will continue today, Thursday, the jury selection in the trial of former school principal Thomas Weindl.

Saipan Tribune learned that Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has yet to select the jurors and that she instructed the prospective jurors to come back Thursday in the afternoon.

The jury selection began Tuesday afternoon and resumed yesterday afternoon.

The remaining charges against the 68-year-old Weindl are one count of receipt of child pornography and one count of access with intent to view child pornography, that occurred on June 18, 2012.

This developed as assistant U.S. attorney Rami S. Badawy on Monday moved to dismiss two counts of the same charges over an incident on June 15, 2012.

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth R. Backe is assisting Badawy for the prosecution. Attorney David Banes is counsel for Weindl. Attorney Michael Dotts is assisting Banes for the defense.

The U.S. government alleged that Weindl, using a Public School System-issued netbook, searched for and accessed almost 200 websites containing images of child pornography.

Weindl pleaded not guilty. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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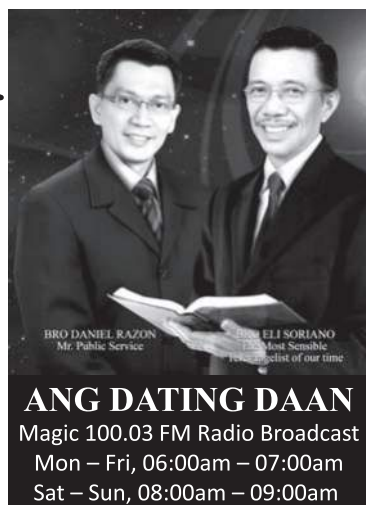
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Report says cop facing police brutality suit acted appropriately

» Investigator says DPS Internal Affairs did not conduct administrative investigation

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Office of the Attorney General investigator Vicente B. Babauta has concluded in his investigation that police officer Jesse L. Dubrall acted appropriately during a narcotic operation in 2010 during which a Chinese national was injured in the head.

Babauta determined that the allegation of Jin Dong Wang is unsubstantiated.

"It was an unfortunate incident that Mr. Wang got hurt, but the officer's action justified and [was] proportionate to Mr. Wang's failure to comply and resistant (sic)," said Babauta in a report he prepared in Oc-

tober 2011.

Babauta's report was among the OAG's exhibits filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Tuesday to support Dubrall's initial disclosures in connection with Wang's police brutality lawsuit.

Wang sustained a large cut in the head during the 2010 operation in As Lito. He alleged that Dubrall hit him with the butt of his gun and punched and kicked him during his mistaken arrest on the evening of Oct. 18, 2010.

In that operation, police realized that Wang was not the "ice" trafficking suspect they were looking for.

Wang filed the police brutality lawsuit in federal court against

Dubrall, the CNMI government, DPS, former DPS commissioner Santiago F. Tudela, and unnamed co-defendants. He is represented in the case by lawyer David Banes.

Babauta said his investigation showed that during the execution of a warrant, Dubrall came face to face with Wang on the second floor balcony of the apartment where the warrant's subject was believed to be residing.

Babauta said that Dubrall yelled out "Police!" and told Wang several times to get down on the ground, but Wang did not comply with the instruction.

Babauta said that Wang ignored Dubrall's instruction and

continued walking toward him. Dubrall then grabbed Wang on the shoulder and arm and attempted to take him down on the ground. Wang reportedly resisted and he and Dubrall slipped and landed on the ground.

Babauta said the investigation showed that Dubrall landed on top of Wang's back and he immediately secured Wang's hands behind his back with a handcuff.

Babauta said the struggle occurred on the second floor of the apartment's balcony where it was narrow, congested, and slippery.

Babauta said that police officer Buddy Igitol, who was in Dubrall's four-man team, came

up and saw Dubrall in a squatting straddle position on the back of Wang.

Babauta said that Wang was already bleeding from the head at that point. Dubrall requested for a medic to the scene and Wang was later transported to the Commonwealth Health Center.

The OAG investigator pointed out that Wang was never arrested and that nothing was taken from him; he was simply detained for failure to comply with Dubrall's instruction.

"The investigation found that Officer Dubrall acted appropriately in his official capacity as a police officer," he said.

Babauta said then Police Sgt. Joseph Flores of DPS Internal Affairs stated in his in-

terview on Sept. 29, 2011, that by the time the information about the incident got to him, Dubrall had already moved out from DPS.

With Dubrall's departure from DPS, Flores did not conduct any administrative investigation on the matter, Babauta said.

In May 2012, U.S. District Court for the NMI chief judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed Wang's claims but allowed him to amend some of his claims related to illegal search and seizure and negligence.

Manglona granted OAG's motion to dismiss Wang's case against Dubrall, the CNMI, and Tudela.

In August 2012, DPS hired back Dubrall.

Defendant in sex trafficking case says he was misled into coming to Saipan

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of two defendants in a sex trafficking case has told the federal court that, like many others, he came to the CNMI from China after being promised that he will be given a U.S. immigration status if he could get to Saipan prior to the federalization of local immigration.

Yanchun Li, through counsel Mark A. Scoggins, said he was lured to the CNMI through false promises that he could work and be given U.S. immigration status prior to federalization.

Scoggins said that prior to relocating to Saipan, Li lost his family's entire savings in the worldwide financial meltdown known in Asia as the "Lehman Shock."

Moving to Saipan with his son was Li's way to start over, Scoggins said, but the promises of work and status that brought Li to the island were false.

The indictment charged Li and Wei Lin with one count of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking and to benefit financially from a sex trafficking venture; three counts of sex trafficking by force, fraud, or coercion; and one count of financially benefiting from a sex trafficking venture.

Under the scheme, women from China were lured to Saipan on false promises of jobs and then forced into prostitution once they got here.

Li and Wei Lin pleaded guilty.

Scoggins noted that as stated in the U.S. Probation Office's presentence investigation report, Li was not part of the inner circle of conspirators in the offense.

Scoggins said that "inner circle" seems to have been a group of five other men who took their orders from co-

defendant Wei Lin.

The defense counsel said Li comes from Jilin province, while Wei Lin and the members of the "inner circle" came from Fujian province. He said Wei Lin and the men came from a different province and spoke the Fujian dialect.

They considered Li an outsider because he came from a different province, Scoggins said.

He said Li's knowledge of the activities of Wei Lin and the others was limited. Scoggins said Wei Lin deliberately kept Li in the dark by speaking a language that Li did not understand.

"Li did have some knowledge of the criminal activity, and he is culpable, but his knowledge was very limited," the lawyer said.

Scoggins objected to the presentence investigation report that included Li among the list of persons who "monitored" the victims.

"The evidence shows that Mr. Li was a driver and nothing more," he stressed.

The U.S. Probation, he said, has recommended that Li's sentence be reduced by two levels, reflecting Li's supposed role as a "minor participant" in the criminal activity.

Li was nothing more than the driver, Scoggins said, and should receive the benefit of a four level deduction in accordance with the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines.

Li was clearly a "minimal participant" and should be treated as such, the lawyer said, adding that his client should be sentenced to the low end of the guideline range at 15 months.

"At that point, Mr. Li will be placed on removal proceedings and sent back to China. This is the appropriate punishment for Mr. Li's limited offense conduct," he said.



FEBRUARY IS
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MONTH**



"Strengthening Families through Parent Leadership"



The Division of Youth Services/DCCA is once again preparing for its activities in celebration of February as the
National Parent Leadership Month.

The month's main activities will include:

- **Proclamation: Feb. 1 at 2:00pm at the Governor's Conference Room**
- **Radio & TV Talk Shows**
- **Street Market Information Booth. February 7 & 21 at 6:00pm - 9:00pm**
- **Parent Education Classes**
- **Parents Anonymous, Inc. Group Sessions**
- **Parent Leadership Workshop & Fair: February 23 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa, 8:00am - 4:30pm**
- **Recognition of Parent Nominees from public & private schools**

National Parent Leadership Month was created to:

- Educate the public about this vital family strengthening and community building strategy
- Encourage professionals, policymakers and other community members to create opportunities to partner with parents to address issues that affect children and families

Parent Leadership occurs when parents gain the knowledge and skills to function in meaningful roles. These parents represent a "parent voice" to help shape the lives of families and communities, as well as shape the direction of programs and policies that impact them. Parents, grandparents, kinship care providers, foster parents, and anyone in a parenting role who has personal experiences in using resources or services to strengthen their families, have the potential to become Parent Leaders.

For further information on Parent Leadership Month & DYS' programs and services, call

664-2555/2552 on Saipan • 532-9393 on Rota • 433-2950 on Tinian

Agulto is Mount Carmel School's 2013 Teacher of the Year

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Mount Carmel School bestowed its Teacher of the Year Award for 2013 on long-time educator and third-grade mentor Carmen Agulto.

The announcement was made at the school's annual faculty/staff appreciation program on campus Tuesday as part of the school's celebration of Catholic Schools Week.

Agulto earned her associate degree in Elementary Education from the Northern Marianas College and her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Guam. Prior to joining Mount Carmel School, she taught at San Vicente Elementary School where she was recognized as Teacher Aide of the Year in 1995 and Teacher



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 2013 Mount Carmel School Teacher of the Year, Carmen Agulto, third from right, is joined by, from left, Fr. Ryan Jimenez, Apostolic Administrator and Catholic School Superintendent for the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa; Dora Borja Miura, 2010 MCS Distinguished Graduate; Francis San Nicolas, 2nd MCS TOY runner up; Ariadne Snodgrass, 1st MCS TOY runner up; Charlotte Camacho, MCS board member; and Galvin Deleon Guerrero, MCS president, during awarding rites Tuesday on campus.

of the Year in 2003.

Besides her work as an educator, Agulto is also active in the community, volunteering for

the American Red Cross, Boy Scouts of America, and Mount Carmel Cathedral as a lector and eucharistic minister.

When asked how she feels being the 2013 MCS Teacher of the Year, Agulto said, "I'm honored and I thank everyone for

their support."

The evaluation process for the school's Teacher of the Year involved classroom observa-

tions and close review of TOY submission packets by a panel of three educators: Jonathan Cabrera, Saipan Southern High School teacher and 2012 TOY for the Public School System; Dr. Dale Jenkins, headmaster for Saipan International School; and Barbara Merfalen, dean for Academic Programs and Services at Northern Marianas College.

According to MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, who met with the panel to discuss their findings, "It was very close because the panelists saw great things in each teacher."

Hailed first runner-up for the 2013 Mount Carmel School TOY was fifth grade teacher Ariadne Snodgrass while the second runner-up honor was bestowed on Physical Education teacher Francis San Nicolas.

CPA negotiates omnibus agreement with CUC

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is trying to negotiate an omnibus agreement with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to ease the authority's burden of paying for current obligations, some of which are being described as "inflated."

This ongoing negotiation was confirmed by CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren, who

pointed out that no agreement has been reached yet.

"CUC and CPA are currently discussing many issues, including water/wastewater billing, easements for water wells, etc. These discussions are ongoing and are anticipated to be completed very soon," Warren told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that it is premature at this point to discuss numbers since no agreement has been finalized yet.

Saipan Tribune learned that the omnibus agreement will comprise a memorandum of understanding that will allow the offsetting of CPA's power and water billings up to 2028. It was learned that CUC still owes CPA from the sewer line project in 1996.

The omnibus agreement, according to sources, is currently in the final negotiation stage and will be included in the 2012 audit report of CPA.

Saipan Tribune learned that under the proposed agreement, CPA will only start paying for power and water costs after 2028 but at the lowest CUC rate. The agreement will also incorporate "inflated" water bills to CPA that came about because of leaks at the airport.

Saipan Tribune learned that CPA spent \$1.066 million on utilities alone in fiscal year 2012. The bulk of the expense is for Saipan, amounting to \$485,000. Tinian had \$334,000, while Rota

had \$247,000.

Revised personnel regs

The CPA board also announced during last week's meeting that the agency's revised personnel rules and regulations are in the final draft form and would soon be issued for board review and adoption.

The amended regulations will include, clear provisions regarding step-in increases for employees, recruitment, and hiring policies, among others.

According to CPA comp-

troller Derek Sasamoto, the agency has retained the 5-percent pay increase for deserving employees every two years—subject to performance evaluation and certification of funds. The CPA board, early last year, approved a 5-percent across-the-board hike for personnel salaries.

CPA employees were assured this fiscal year of 80 work hours, holiday pay, and hazard pay for those who work during holidays. The agency has an estimated 198 FTEs.

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Manta Ray Band to host golf fundraiser

The Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band is set to host another fundraising golf event next month.

Rotarian Curtis Dancoe said on Tuesday's meeting of the Rotary Club of Saipan that the 2nd Annual Manta Ray Band Golf Tournament is slated for Feb. 16 at the Coral Ocean Point.

Registration begins at 11am for \$80 per person, with tee time to start at noon. There will be cash prizes for the top three golfers.

The event is coordinated by the Saipan Golfers Association.

According to Dancoe, band conductor Will De Witt asked for help to announce the tournament to gain more participation and support.

The Manta Ray Band hosted a golf tournament for the first time last March, one of the



NMC

HUMANITIES AWARDEE

Several Northern Marianas College employees congratulated Tonny Goobad, center, an archivist technician at the CNMI Archives, who was recently named by the NMI Humanities Council as this year's recipient of the Preservation of CNMI History Award. Goobad's work has been instrumental in facilitating a wide variety of research including matters relating to the Covenant and the CNMI Constitution, land claims and the operations of the Trust Territory and CNMI governments. He organized the Archives' substantial collection of documents and developed a catalogue system of contemporary documents that facilitates their use by researchers. He has provided assistance to students, teachers and scholars doing research of the CNMI during his 23-year career at the CNMI Archives at the college.

several events aimed at raising funds for their trip to London where they performed during the 2012 Olympics.

The group also conducted fundraising luncheon, raffle draw, a tree planting activity and a concert on top of solicitation efforts. Several organizations also held

their own fundraisers, the proceeds of which were donated to the award-winning band.

Besides the London Olympics, the Manta Ray Band also performed during the 2008 Beijing Olympics and at the famed Carnegie Hall in New York. *(Clarissa V. David)*

Girl sustains minor injuries in assault

On Jan. 17, 2013, DPS Patrol officers responded to a disturbance call at the grounds of the Thursday Street Market in Garapan. The call was received at about 8:54pm. It was learned through the preliminary investigations of Officer Rhonda John that a 15-year-old female was assaulted by three other minor females. Two males, a 19-year-old and a 17-year-old, were also involved in the assault. The incident occurred at the entrance of the Fishing Base, west of the Street Market grounds.

As a result of the assault on the minor victim, she was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center where she was treated for scratches to her face and a laceration to one of her ears. She was later released from CHC. The victim at the time of the assault

was with three of her friends who were minors between the ages of 13-15 years old. Preliminary investigations further revealed that "name calling" with profanities were exchanged between the group that eventually led to the altercation. The two males involved in the assault were arrested the following day. The two are charged with disturbing the peace, assault and battery. The adult, Frankie Aldan Rangamau, was booked and detained at the Department of Corrections and the minor was booked and detained at the Juvenile Corrections Unit.

Juvenile detectives are conducting further investigations into this incident and, depending on the result of their investigations, further arrests may be forthcoming. *(DPS)*

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy first birthday to our little princess, Leala Igitol Ngriraked! May the Lord bless you on your day and many more to come! With love from Mommy, Daddy, Lyandra, Spencer, Lena, Grandma, Grandpa, Anella, and from the rest of the family.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to the greatest mom, Potenciana Helbert Fritz. We wish you a happy and wonderful special day! We love you mom and thanks for everything! Happy birthday and may God bless you! Greetings come from your family of the Finasisu Troops!

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE REGULAR BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING SCHEDULED THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2013 AT 9:30 A.M. AT BOR CONFERENCE ROOM, HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 05, 2013.

SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT HELEN B. CAMACHO, BOARD EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AT 234-5498 EXT. 1050.

THANK YOU AND WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THIS MAY CAUSE.



NOTICE OF MEETING NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS' REGULAR MEETING

Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2013
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Northern Marianas College
BOR Conference Room
Saipan Campus

AGENDA

- I. Call Meeting to Order (9:30a.m – 9:50a.m)**
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
 - c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
 1. November 09, 2012 Continued on November 13, 2012 – Regular Meeting
 2. December 21, 2012 – Regular Meeting
 3. December 28, 2012 – Special Meeting
 4. January 07, 2013 – Special Meeting
- II. Public Comment Period:** Individuals may orally testify on items on this agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes. (9:50a.m – 10:00a.m)
- III. Board Chair's Remarks (10:00a.m. – 10:10a.m)**
- IV. WASC Accreditation Update (10:10a.m – 10:30a.m.)**
- V. Old Business**
 - a. Performance Evaluation of the NMC President (10:30a.m – 11:00a.m.)
 - b. Board Policy for Consideration – First Reading (11:00a.m – 11:30a.m.)
 1. Repeal of old Board Policies – Student Services (Action Item)
 2. Repeal of old Board Policies – Human Resources (Action Item)
 3. Repeal of old Board Policies – Finance and Procurement (Action Item)
- Lunch Break 11:30a.m. – 12:30p.m.
- c. Board Policy for Consideration – Second Reading (1:00p.m. – 1:30p.m)**
 1. Board Policy No. 206 – Policy Introduction, Amendment, Passage and Suspension (Action Item)
 2. Board Policy No. 206.3 – Budget, Audit and Finance Committee (Action Item)
 3. Board Policy No. 402 – Student Health Insurance (Action Item)
 4. Proposed administrative regulations of the Northern Marianas College to enforce its Drug Free Workplace, Smoking Tobacco and Betel Nut Policy (Action Item)
- VI. New Business (1:30p.m – 1:45p.m)**
 - a. Presidential Goals for FY2013
 - b. Establishment of new faculty salary floor (Action Item)
- VII. Legislative Update (1:45p.m – 1:50p.m)**
- VIII. Reports (1:50p.m – 2:50p.m.)**
 - a. President's Report
 1. Associated Students of Northern Marianas College (ASNMC)
 2. Staff Senate
 3. Faculty Senate
 - b. Dean of Administration Report
 - c. Program Highlights – Math Programs
 - d. BOR Standing Committees
 1. Budget and Finance Committee
 2. Program Committee
 3. AdHOC Committees
- IX. Board Annual Self-Evaluation (2:50p.m – 3:50p.m)**
- X. Executive Session (4:00p.m – 5:00p.m)**

(At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)
- XI. Upcoming Board Activities (5:00p.m)**
 1. Schedule Next Regular Meeting
 2. PSS/BOR Joint meeting
- XII. Adjournment**

/s/ Juan T. Lizama
BOR Chairperson

Date: January 31, 2013

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jan. 31, 2000

New harbor fees lift seaport revenues

Revenues generated by the marine division of the Commonwealth Ports Authority jumped by 20 percent in November 1999 compared with the previous year record, as a result of the new schedule of harbor fees implemented last year. CPA's seaport operations generated \$339,646, up from the previous year tally of \$285,000, according to a financial report presented during the CPA Board of Directors meeting in Rota Friday. Ports Authority Board Chair Roman S. Palacios said the increase was primarily fueled by the implementation of the new seaport fee schedule in July last year.

Govt tightens entry of balut, salted eggs

If you're planning to import balut and salted eggs in large quantity from the Philippines, then you better think twice. The Department of Lands and Natural Resources has recently imposed a new regulation limiting the number of balut and salted eggs that can be brought from the Philippines or other Asian countries. Each passenger can bring in only 12 baluts and 12 salted eggs. According to Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz, CNMI veterinarian, the restriction was primarily due to lack of manpower and equipment in the Quarantine Division to inspect huge quantities of these eggs which is meant to prevent the entry of hatching or viable eggs that may become the potential source of new diseases.

Jan. 31, 2001

OPA: Insurance firm padded bills

The NMI Retirement Fund lost an estimated \$313,516 on fraudulent claims and over \$500,000 in supported claims due to padded bills of physical therapy services rendered by Megaplus International CNMI, Inc. Based on the result of the audit investigation of health insurance payments to Megaplus International, the Office of the Public Auditor disclosed that NMIRF through its Group Health and Life Insurance Branch paid the company over \$800,000 on fraudulent health insurance claims of physical therapy services. Public Auditor Mike S. Sablan asked Fund Administrator Juan S. Torres to expedite the hiring of the review utilization board to prevent possible recurrence of this type of problem and the immediate preparation of guidelines for the review and processing of claims.

DPH: Flexible terms for indigent patients

The Department of Public Health yesterday disclosed the implementation of its Medically Indigent Assistance Plan to ensure the delivery of essential medical and health services to patients who do not have the capability to pay for them on one-time basis. The program helps patients pay medical services through the sliding fee scale program. According to Public Health Secretary Kevin P. Villagomez, the program is a schedule of discounts that would allow patients to pay a percentage of their bill depending on their financial ability. Villagomez explained that MIAP is part of the mission of the health department to provide quality medical care to residents of Northern Marianas regardless of their financial capacity.

Jan. 31, 2002

Army Corps to shut down PCB-treatment machine

The indirect thermal desorption unit used in treating PCB-laced soil in Tanapag would be shut down indefinitely after the proof of performance tests, giving the US Army Corps of Engineers and its contractor time to attend to needed maintenance work and address the dust problem created by the machine. This, as the US Environmental Protection Agency assured its local counterpart, the Division of Environmental Quality, that it will not allow operations of the ITD unit to resume until the Army Corps and its contractor, Environmental Chemical Corp, would have installed dust control measures. The EPA and the DEQ have reached an agreement in monitoring the treatment operations.

US trust fund for Micronesians depleting

The Prior Service Trust Fund is going to run out of money in July this year and, with October being the earliest that the U.S. Congress can appropriate the money needed, its beneficiaries may have to endure getting postponed benefits every other month. Fund Administrator Jerry Facey said that, of the over \$10 million that were appropriated by the U.S. Congress through the years for this purpose, less than \$800,000 remain. "We're paying over a \$100,000 a month, which means that, by this summer, we'll be out of money. The situation is "pretty scary," he said. "We have over 2,000 beneficiaries, of which about 470 are from the Northern Marianas, who all depend on this money every month."

MCS students plant flowers during Catholic School Week



Eleventh grade students from Mount Carmel High School show off the plants and flowers that they will be planting at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe on Monday, Jan. 28.

Eleventh grade students from Mount Carmel High School planted Hibiscus and Exora plants and flowers on Monday, Jan. 28, at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe. This beautification project was part of the students’ annual service to the community undertaken during Catholic School Week.

The plantings of flowers in front of the courthouse was also a demonstration of the students’ appreciation of the *Judges in the Classroom* program conducted by members of the Judiciary at their school during Law Month 2012. The students also wished to show thanks for the instruction, guidance, and facilities provided by the Judiciary for the “Mock Trial” practices and competitions, in which many Mount Carmel students are intensely involved.

Rosiky Camacho, adviser for the eleventh grade, accompanied the students. James Babauta of the forestry division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources coordinated the planting and donation of the plants. Thirty-two students participated. (NMI Judiciary)

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Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff,
vs.
JAMES D. CABRERA, Defendant.

Civil Action
No. 11-0094
NOTICE OF AUCTION
and JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 5th day of July, 2012, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 22nd day of February, 2013 at 10 a.m., at the Marianas Public Land Trust conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot/Tract No. 011 G 243, containing an area of 865 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official DLS Check No. 011 G 05, the original of which was recorded on December 16, 1993 as Document No. 93-4413 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - c) to reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 14th day of January, 2013.

/s/Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Judicial Building Fund

From time to time the issue of the Judicial Building Fund is raised in the media. The Judiciary feels it is important that the facts concerning the establishment of the Fund and the respective roles and responsibilities of the government branches and departments be understood.

Public Law No. 7-25, “The Judicial Building Fund Act of 1990” was enacted to establish a judicial building fund dedicated to financing the construction and furnishing of an appropriate structure to house the courts of the Commonwealth. This fund was established within the Department of Finance. All criminal and civil fines and all revenues collected by the courts of the Commonwealth are to be deposited and credited to the Judicial Building Fund.

Realizing in 1994 that court collections by themselves were going to be insufficient to fi-

nance the construction of a new judicial complex, the 9th Legislature passed the Judicial Building Financing Act, Public Law No.9-3, which committed the Commonwealth government to securing a loan from the NMI Retirement Fund to build the Saipan Judicial Complex. The CNMI took on this loan of approximately \$15 million as a general obligation backed by the full faith and credit of the Commonwealth government. PL 9-3 directs the Director of Finance to pay out of the general fund all obligations of the Commonwealth government incurred pursuant to the loan to the extent that such obligations cannot be paid out of court collections.

Since 1995, the Court has collected an estimated \$15 million in fees and fines to be deposited and credited to the Judicial Building Fund. The



Judiciary has honored its legal obligation of transferring its court collections to the Department of Finance.

The Judiciary has transmitted all court collections to the Department of Finance and any additional obligations for the loan are to be paid out of

the General Fund pursuant to PL 9-3. The Judiciary has met with Retirement and the Department of Finance to assist in addressing any arrearage but the Judiciary is not a party to the loan agreement. Therefore, the CNMI Department of Finance and the NMI Re-

tirement Fund should be contacted for more information about the status of the Saipan Judicial Complex loan.

Copies of Public Laws 7-25 and 9-3 are found on the Law Revision Commission’s website at www.cnmilaw.org. (NMI Judiciary)

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ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff,
-v-
MARIANO S. NAPUTI, Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION
NO. 05-0382
NINTH AMENDED
NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 3, 2006, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 334, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 08, the original of which was recorded on May 14, 1990, as document No. 90-1905, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, March 1, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 23rd day of January, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Gloria M. Khan, Petitioner,
vs.
Ashiku Khan, Respondent.

FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION
NO. 11-0220
SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is **P.O. Box 505464, Saipan, MP 96950**, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief in the Complaint.

DATED, this 23rd day of January, 2013:

/s/Clerk of Court

JOE HILL, Esq.,
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. Box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 234-6806/7743
Fax: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

SOLEDAD S. BUENSUCESO-JUACHON, Petitioner,
versus
ANTHONY I. JUACHON, Respondent.

FCD DI CIVIL ACTION
NO. 12-0408
SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewee, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 5th day of August, 2012.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court



Kanoa Resort
Saipan

(1) GUEST RELATIONS AGENT (RUSSIAN MARKET)

Our Resort is looking for a candidate with previous Front Desk or Hotel Administration experience who is results driven and customer focused. He/she will take an active role within the Front Office and perform tasks in accordance with the Resort’s business objectives.

As Guest Relations Agent, the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Greeting, registering and assigning rooms to guests and checking out guests
- Keeping records of room assignments and updating other registration information on computers.
- Communicating with Russian guests other Departments regarding guest issues and requests
- Implementing high service quality to exceed guests’ expectations
- Dealing with guest inquiries and service related issues

Qualifications:

- Minimum Education: High school graduate
- Minimum Experience: Two years of experience in a related field/similar role or in a high volume hospitality environment at as a Front Desk or Guest Relations Staff
- Ability to speak and write in Russian
- Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends, and holidays
- Excellent communication, organizational, and multitasking skills are a must
- Team player

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application Forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our Resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than February 04, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

US should lead on climate change

President Barack Obama called on Americans last week to renew the battle against climate change.

This line from his inaugural address garnered deserved attention: "We will respond to the threat of climate change, knowing that the failure to do so would betray our children and future generations."

But pause the tape right there.

First, Obama in his four years as president already has taken several actions aimed at reducing carbon emissions, primarily through increased fuel efficiency rules for vehicles.

So the president hasn't exactly been missing in action on this issue, although he did suffer a big failure in 2009 when Congress killed a loophole-filled bill designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Second, and looking forward, Obama's mention of climate change—while a stirring call to action, saying we can do better than we are right now because the stakes are so high—offered no more details into how that happens.

It's more of the same positive message he's been preaching for years.

The key—as environmental organizations, politicians and fossil fuel industries well know—is taking direct actions to cut into emissions.

It can be done many ways and one of the best ways to reduce emissions is to further ratchet down the limits on how much can be spewed into the air by power plants.

Obama faces a number of pivotal decisions in dealing with climate change.

Americans now will be focused on his State of the Union speech in mid-February, to see what kinds of policy changes and funding goals he might propose.

He tried and bombed on promoting a cap-and-trade measure in 2009.

The bill was designed to make businesses buy and sell permits to meet an overall goal of fewer emissions. But this complicated approach is too lenient on polluters and would take too long to work. Congress rejected it.

Instead, *The Kansas City Star* and some environmental groups favor imposition of a carbon tax or fee on fossil fuels, designed to encourage coal-fired plant operators to install more modern equipment.

But plenty of supporters—including some in the conservative ranks—say a carbon charge has a chance of being approved only if it's revenue neutral. One of the proposed ideas is to return the funds raised by the tax or fee to Americans through reduced payroll taxes. It's an interesting idea to pursue if Obama goes for a carbon tax approach.

Finally, Obama will have to be more creative in working with the rest of the globe, especially the fast-growing countries of India and China, to trim their manmade emissions.

Climate change is a worldwide problem begging for worldwide solutions. Still, America should take the lead to charge in that direction.

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WHEN A SENATE PRESIDENT LACKS THE MORAL FIBER.

Resolve the North Korea nuclear issue

By JOSEPH R. DETRANI
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Given the turmoil in the Middle East and South Asia and the tension in East Asia, a needed success in resolving the North Korea nuclear issue still could be within our reach, despite North Korea's harsh response to the United Nations Security Council Resolution condemning North Korea for its December missile launch.

The fourth round of the Six-Party Talks with North Korea, in September 2005, produced a joint statement that stated that North Korea was prepared to dismantle its existing nuclear programs in exchange for economic assistance, ultimate normalization of relations with the United States and the provision of a light water reactor when North Korea returned to the Non Proliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear weapons state.

Former North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il endorsed this joint statement, noting on numerous occasions that North Korea was prepared to dismantle all of its nuclear programs in exchange for security assurances, economic assistance and normal relations with the United States. North Korea's new leader, Kim Jong-Un, has not commented on this statement and has not, as his father did, stated his commitment to denuclearization. Getting Kim Jong-Un to make these commitments now will be more difficult, but not impossible.

Pyongyang's Jan. 24 statement, in response to the Jan. 22 U.N. resolution, stated: "Under this situation, the (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) cannot but declare that there will no longer exist the six-party talks and the September 19 joint statement."

North Korea had previously made similar statements, but through the intervention of China and others, North Korea returned to negotiations. This is what must be done now.

By way of background, the optimism the Sept. 19, 2005 joint statement engendered, after three years of fruitless negotiations that started in August 2003, was short-lived, however, when in July 2006, North Korea launched seven missiles, followed by a nuclear test in October 2006. Sanctions were immediately imposed on North Korea when the U.N. Security Council adopted Resolutions 1695 and 1718. At that time, North Korea argued that it launched these missiles because of U.S. breach of trust when the U.S. Treasury, on the same day the joint statement was signed, sanctioned a bank in Macao that, accused of money laundering for North Korea, was obliged to freeze \$25 million of money belonging to North Korea. Eventually, when the Macao bank was in compliance with U.S. law, the money was returned to North Korea. This then resulted in North Korea returning to Six-Party negotiations, when some progress was made, only to be dashed when North Korea balked at the U.S. demand that their oral verification agreement be in writing.

We've been in Six-Party Talks negotiations and numerous bilateral negotiations with North Korea for almost 10 years. During the last few years there have been no official Six-Party negotiations and some bilateral contact, all with dismal results. Indeed, over this 10-year period, North Korea has built, sold and upgraded its stockpile of ballistic missiles and fabricated more plutonium and highly enriched uranium-based nuclear weapons. And based on the Dec. 12 successful missile launch that put a satellite in orbit, it appears Pyongyang is making appreciable progress with its long-range ballistic missiles.

Although the five countries engaging North Korea in the Six-Party Talks—China, the United States, South Korea, Japan and Russia—all are equally invested in these negotiations, it's China and the United States that have the most leverage with North Korea. China provides significant food and energy assistance to North Korea; its trade with North Korea has increased significantly and it has a 1961 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance with North Korea.

It's clear China has significant leverage with North Korea. The leverage the United States has is considerable, in that North Korea wants security assurances and normal diplomatic relations with the United States, which in turn would give North Korea access to international financial institutions and international legitimacy. Consequently, it would be fair to assume that China and the United States can and should do more, especially now, to re-engage with North Korea before North Korea further escalates tension, thus making resumption of negotiations inconceivable.

The strategy of insouciance has not been successful. Engagement at this time with the new leadership in Pyongyang seems prudent, assuming the young leader Kim Jong-Un refrains from any further missile launches or nuclear tests and, as his father did, commits to eventual denuclearization, in line with the Sept. 19, 2005, joint statement.

China, working closely with the United States, can move this process forward by getting Pyongyang to immediately return unconditionally to the Six-Party Talks. The goal should be to get Kim Jong-Un publicly to commit North Korea to the joint statement, declaring that North Korea is prepared to dismantle all of its nuclear programs in return for security assurances, economic assistance and ultimate normalization of relations with the United States.

It's time to act.

Joseph R. DeTrani was the special envoy for Six-Party Talks with North Korea from 2003 to 2006, the National Intelligence North Korea mission manager from 2006 to 2010, and was the director of the National Counterproliferation Center until January 2012.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Immigration bill will also affect CNMI long-term foreign workers

Leaders from both the Democrats and Republicans have announced their support for a major, all-encompassing immigration bill that, among other things, will provide undocumented immigrants a path to eventual U.S. citizenship.

If and when this bill becomes law, it is likely to also cover undocumented immigrants in U.S. territories outside the mainland, including the CNMI's long-term legal foreign workers.

The last amnesty law for undocumented immigrants was under the Immigration Reform Control Act of 1986, which was mainly instigated by Democrats. Since then the Republicans have slammed the door on practically every legalization proposal—including the Dream Act, which allowed for the legalization of those who were brought here as innocent children who for all practical purposes are culturally American.

After the Republicans' defeat in the last two national elections, which many attribute to their support of draconian immigration policies and harsh rhetoric toward undocumented immigrants, some party stalwarts like Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida have been urging their conservative colleagues to face the reality of changing demographics and the growing power of the Hispanic and other immigrant community votes.

In the last elections, pandering to the conservative vote, defeated presidential candidate Mitt Romney promised that if he were elect-

ed, he would make life so miserable for undocumented immigrants, they would be forced to self-deport.

His harsh rhetoric and intended plan of action against undocumented immigrants galvanized civil rights and human rights activists, Hispanic and other immigrant community groups to do intense house to house, person to person and telephonic reach outs to campaign for his opponent. President Barack Obama, who won by a wide margin, had promised to push for legislation that would provide a path to legalization of undocumented immigrants and eventual citizenship if he were re-elected.

This sweeping immigration bill whose passage is long overdue is the right way to go for the country. The U.S. became a great country because it is a country of immigrants and their descendants with diverse cultures and technologies all contributed to the country's greatness and have become an example to the world of dedication to human rights and democratic principles.

Unfortunately, there are those who have forgotten their immigrant roots and, fueled by fear, prejudice, and irrational hate, have become blind to the humanity of undocumented immigrants who, like their forebears, just want a better life for themselves and their families.

It is not the case that this bipartisan Senate bill and its later House counterpart will breeze smoothly through both houses simply because of being bipartisan. Certain legislators, particularly from con-

By **TED LAGUATAN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Ted Laguatan is a human rights lawyer and is also honored by the California State Bar as one of the top immigration lawyers in the country, being one of only 29 lawyers officially certified continuously as an Expert-Specialist in Immigration Law for almost 25 years now. He writes a syndicated column for various publications. Email him at laguatanlaw@gmail.com.



servative enclaves where immigrants, undocumented or otherwise, are constantly demonized, will try to prevent passage into law.

However, facing the reality of electoral consequences and because it is the right thing to do, more Republican legislators are now supporting the passage of a major encompassing combined Senate and House integrated bipartisan immigration bill. Together with the full support of the White House, now more than ever, the likelihood that the dreams of millions of our fellow human beings of having a decent chance at life for themselves and their children and contributing to the greatness of America will finally become a reality.

Kids, not criminals

One-hundred-thousand. That is the number of children and teenagers estimated to be exploited in the commercial sex trade here in the United States.

Fourteen-year-old "Grace" was one of those teens. One day, she is hanging out with her friends in her neighborhood after school. She wants to be anywhere but inside her abusive home. Louis walks up to the girls, singles her out, and tells her she is pretty. He flirts with her and asks her out on a date.

Grace doesn't know it yet, but her life is about to change forever.

After a few months of "courtship," Grace believes she is in love and runs away from home to live with Louis. But he soon becomes abusive. While most girls Grace's age are worrying about studying for their next history exam, Louis starts taking her from state to state to sell her for commercial sex with dozens of men. She quickly learns that refusals coincide with beatings and rape. Then, one night, Grace is arrested and charged with solicitation. When she is released, she returns to her pimp because she doesn't know where else to go. She can't return to her family, and he has threatened to find her and beat her if she doesn't return to him. Louis has used a toxic mixture of abuse and feigned compassion to manipulate her into believing she is fully dependent on him.

A year later, she is arrested again. She is being punished for an act that she can't even legally consent to. She is a kid who needs help and support, but instead she is treated like a criminal.

I have met countless girls with a story just like this one. At Polaris Project, a leading U.S. organization dedicated to ending human traffick-

ing, we help these victims of sex trafficking find the strength to reclaim their lives after years of exploitation, hopelessness and pain.

We know that the victims of child sex trafficking are frequently only 15 to 17 years old. Some are as young as 12. Yet, all too often they are arrested and prosecuted for offenses ranging from solicitation to prostitution.

A few state legislators are actively working to change this dynamic. They recognize that victims of sexual exploitation are kids, not criminals. Policymakers in New York, Illinois, Massachusetts, Washington and four other states have shown leadership on this issue by passing Safe Harbor laws to protect and support these vulnerable youth. And now representatives in states like Texas, Nevada, Arkansas and Nebraska are working to follow suit.

Safe Harbor laws ensure that children under 18 cannot be prosecuted for prostitution. They define sexually exploited children as victims of abuse, help them find protection and support, and where possible, can increase funding for specialized services to help these children recover—services like long-term housing, mental health care, education and job training. Safe Harbor laws help remove the stigma of prostitution and shift the response from a criminal justice perspective to one focusing on the welfare of the child.

Today, we need more Safe Harbor laws across the country to protect victims of sex trafficking like Grace and help them reclaim their lives. Polaris Project and numerous other organizations that work with survivors of sex trafficking have found that this all-encompassing approach prevents these girls from returning to the very places

By **BRADLEY MYLES**

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Bradley Myles is executive director of Polaris Project, a leading organization in the global fight against human trafficking and modern-day slavery. www.polarisproject.org.



and people who exploited them in the first place.

In the eight states where these laws are in place, girls find the strength to live on their own. They get their GEDs, go back to school, find jobs, move into their first apartments and get a second chance at normal lives. All of this is far easier to achieve without a criminal record. They also see justice served when law enforcement focuses on arresting and prosecuting their pimps—the real criminals.

January is National Human Trafficking Awareness month. Let's translate this awareness into action. First, let's call on every state to protect child victims of sex trafficking and exploitation by passing and implementing strong Safe Harbor laws. Second, if you see a potential case of sex trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 where call specialists are available 24 hours a day to connect victims of trafficking to local services and support.

All of us can make a difference in the fight against human trafficking and modern-day slavery. More important, all of us can help girls like Grace find hope again.

Ignore those people in the back and party on!

President Obama's inaugural speech struck the notes expected on such occasions. He evoked our founding documents. He used words like "timeless" and "enduring," and as with most Obama speeches, it was a fine performance. Yet after four years you know this president doesn't always mean what he says.

To some extent, that's true of all politicians, of course. But with this one it seems more so. He once promised to go through the budget "line by line," but as time passed he became uncommonly resistant to reducing any of the numbers on those lines.

So when you hear him talking about remaking our government or reforming the tax code or making the "hard choices" needed to tame health care costs, the words slide by like so much rhetorical wallpaper.

What you do understand after last week is that he has little intention of doing things that seem obvious, imperative, essential to the country's future. Given the nation's fiscal dilemmas, what the speech seemed to highlight was a shocking dereliction of duty.

He suggested there's no need to retool Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security in any way. These programs, as Obama put it, "do not sap our initiative, they strengthen us."

Never mind that he himself has admitted that if nothing is done about Medicare and Medicaid, they "will consume the entire federal budget." But that was then. The latest word is what

he told House Speaker John Boehner late last year: "We don't have a spending problem."

You watch all this with an almost ghoulish fascination, as you might watch a video of a bus careening down a mountain road, with the driver's friends partying in front, drowning out a chorus of warnings from the back.

What's that they say back there? Something about the driver being reckless. That without repairs the bus will crash. Something about hairpin turns ahead....

Pay them no mind, the driver says. They have nothing to contribute. "We cannot mistake absolutism for principle," he intones, "or substitute spectacle for politics, or treat name-calling as reasoned debate."

The people in front cheer. Besides, the driver says, "Our journey is not yet complete."

Yet without substantial upgrades, that bus will break down long before the journey is "complete."

The modern welfare state is slowly collapsing not only here but across the developed world. Meanwhile, the president and his party, who have overseen a near-doubling of the national debt in four years, have refused to seriously discuss how things might be set on an even keel.

Since the era of chronic deficits began 40 years ago, most of the increased spending has been for social service programs, primarily Medicare and Medicaid—the costs of which have risen

By **E. THOMAS MCCLANAHAN**

The Kansas City Star

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five-fold over that period. Next year, health care entitlement costs will further accelerate with the near-full implementation of Obamacare.

After the speech, Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama walked down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House, and the next day a photo of the happy pair, waving to the crowd, adorned the nation's front pages.

A nice moment, but repairs to that bus can't be put off forever.






Nor can the people who will need it in the future be fooled forever about its true condition, or the tax load they and their children will face for today's refusal to act.

One promise Obama has worked hard to fulfill is his belief that government must "share the wealth." But in blocking all serious attempts to reform entitlements, he is redistributing income less from today's wealthy than from future taxpayers, increasing the risk that they'll be forced to pay in the form of stunted economic growth and diminished prospects.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

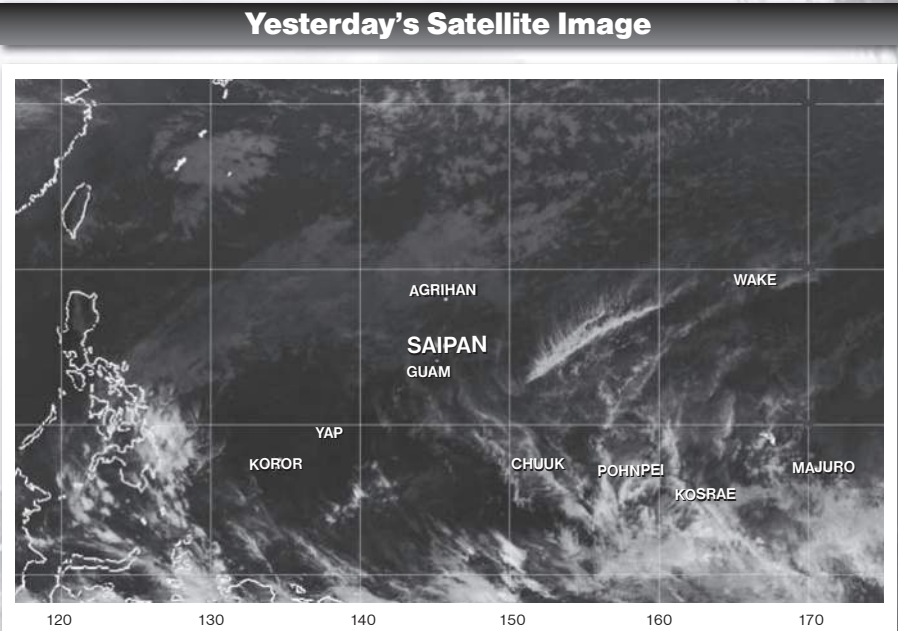
5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy and windy at times. Isolated showers. Northeast winds 20 to 30 mph.	Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲83° ▼75°	▲83° ▼75°	▲84° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°

Micronesia		
Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲82 ▼75
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲85 ▼78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▼78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼79
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼79
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼79
Majuro	Cloudy	▲87 ▼81

Around The Globe		
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲75 ▼64
Beijing	Sunny	▲37 ▼20
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲71 ▼65
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲79 ▼67
London	Showers	▲51 ▼43
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲69 ▼48
Manila	Thundershowers	▲80 ▼75
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲79 ▼54
Miami	Sunny	▲82 ▼69
New York	Showers	▲56 ▼42
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲52 ▼39
Paris	Showers	▲53 ▼43
Pusan	Partly Cloludy	▲53 ▼46
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲63 ▼43
Salem	Showers	▲47 ▼40
San Francisco	Sunny	▲64 ▼45
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲50 ▼41
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲49 ▼35
Washington, DC	Showers	▲70 ▼44

Tides				
Saipan Harbor				
4:07 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	
10:33 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	
4:54 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet	
10:19 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet	



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front runs southwestward from 25N179E to 16N152E then continues as a shear line across the CNMI to 15N140E to beyond 130E at 12N. Low-clouds and scattered showers are occurring along and up to 220 miles northwest of the cold front. Cloudiness and scattered light showers exist along and up to 450 miles northwest of the shear line. Converging low-level winds west of Wake Island are producing scattered showers within 40 miles of a line from 13N151E to 15N154E to 18N160E. Similar conditions are occurring southeast of Yap and Koror within 50 miles of a line from 4N138E to 6N142E. Converging low-level winds near the equator are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near and south of Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae south of a line from 8N149E to 10N160E to EQ170E. Scattered showers associated with a trade-wind disturbance are found south to southeast of the Marshall Islands within 180 miles of a line from 2N170E to 3N180.

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:46 AM	6:15 PM	Today	9:43 PM	9:11 AM
Friday	6:46 AM	6:15 PM	Friday	10:37 PM	9:53 AM
Saturday	6:46 AM	6:16 PM	Saturday	11:33 PM	10:38 AM
Sunday	6:46 AM	6:16 PM	Sunday		11:25 AM
Monday	6:45 AM	6:16 PM	Monday	12:31 AM	12:17 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ **CAMPUS BULLETIN**
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JAN. 7, 2013									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7		UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7	
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5		UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily	
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily		UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	
UA5074	11:10am	12:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7	
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily		UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily	
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily		UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily	
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily						
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
DL287	6:00am	8:40am	Daily		DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily	
DL285	6:35am	9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7		DL286	7:40pm	12:15am+1	2, 4, 6, 7	
DL297	4:25pm	7:20pm	Daily		DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)					OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN				
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily		OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 6, 7		OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 5, 6	
OZ608	3:30am	6:40am	3		OZ607	9:35pm	2:25am+1	2	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1		OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily	
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX	
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX		OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7	
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily		OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7		3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)					BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN				
MU7108	3:50am	7:00am	1, 5		MU7107	7:40pm	2:55am+1	4, 7	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6		3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)					VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN				
XF1734	6:30am	12:30pm	5		XF1733	8:00pm	12:05am+1	4	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1		OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN	
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		DL172/288	8:05am	1:15am+1	Daily via NRT	
UA5070/191	4:35am	10:00am	6 via GUM		UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM	
UA5070/191	4:40am	10:00am	3		UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM	
DL287/173	6:00am	10:25pm	Daily via NRT		OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM		OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN		UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	2, 5 via GUM	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)					HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN		OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN	
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
UA5076/147	3:10pm	10:30pm	1, 5 via GUM		OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
OZ604/749	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN		UA180/5071	11:25pm	10:40am+1	1 via GUM	
					UA180/5077	11:25pm	6:25pm+1	5 via GUM	

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE									
Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency		
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily		
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily		
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily		
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily		
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily		
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily		
Rota-Saipan									
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	Tinian-Saipan					
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily		
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily		
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily		
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily		
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily		
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily		
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily		
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily		
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily		
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily		
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily		
				FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily		
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily		

Public Investiture



Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) gestures as he delivers a 14-minute speech for his public investiture.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



The crowd at the delegate's public investiture.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Marianas High School students take part in the delegate's public investiture.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona, right, shakes hands with Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), left, after the federal judge administered the oath of office to the delegate during the latter's ceremonial swearing in for a third term in office yesterday. Looking on are Sablan's wife Andrea and mother Victorina, holding the Holy Bible.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), left, shakes hands with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, as Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos looks on right before the start of Sablan's ceremonial swearing in for his third term in office at Mariana High School gymnasium yesterday morning. Also in photo is Education Commissioner Rita Sablan.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



From left, Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and the governor's police escort, Police Capt. Jermaine Nekaifes. In the background is Senate President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian).

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



U.S. Interior's Office of Insular Affairs Director Nik Pula, center, and acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Eileen Sobeck, right, are among the visiting federal officials at the delegate's ceremonial swearing in yesterday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Marianas High School students watch the delegate's ceremonial swearing in from their school gym's bleachers.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), fourth from left, and family pose for a group photo.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Business

Japan's airlines replaced 787 batteries many times

TOKYO (AP)—All Nippon Airways and Japan Airlines said they replaced lithium-ion batteries in their Boeing 787 Dreamliners on multiple occasions before a battery overheating incident led to the worldwide grounding of the jets.

ANA said Wednesday it replaced batteries on its 787 aircraft some 10 times because they failed to charge properly or showed other problems, and informed Boeing about the swaps. Japan Airlines said it had also replaced lithium-ion batteries on its 787 jets but couldn't immediately give details.

All 50 of the Boeing 787s in use around the world were grounded after an ANA flight on Jan. 16 made an emergency landing in Japan when its main battery overheated. Earlier in January, a battery in a Japan Airlines 787 caught fire while parked at Boston's Logan International Airport.

Lithium-ion batteries are prone to overheating and require additional safeguards to prevent fires.

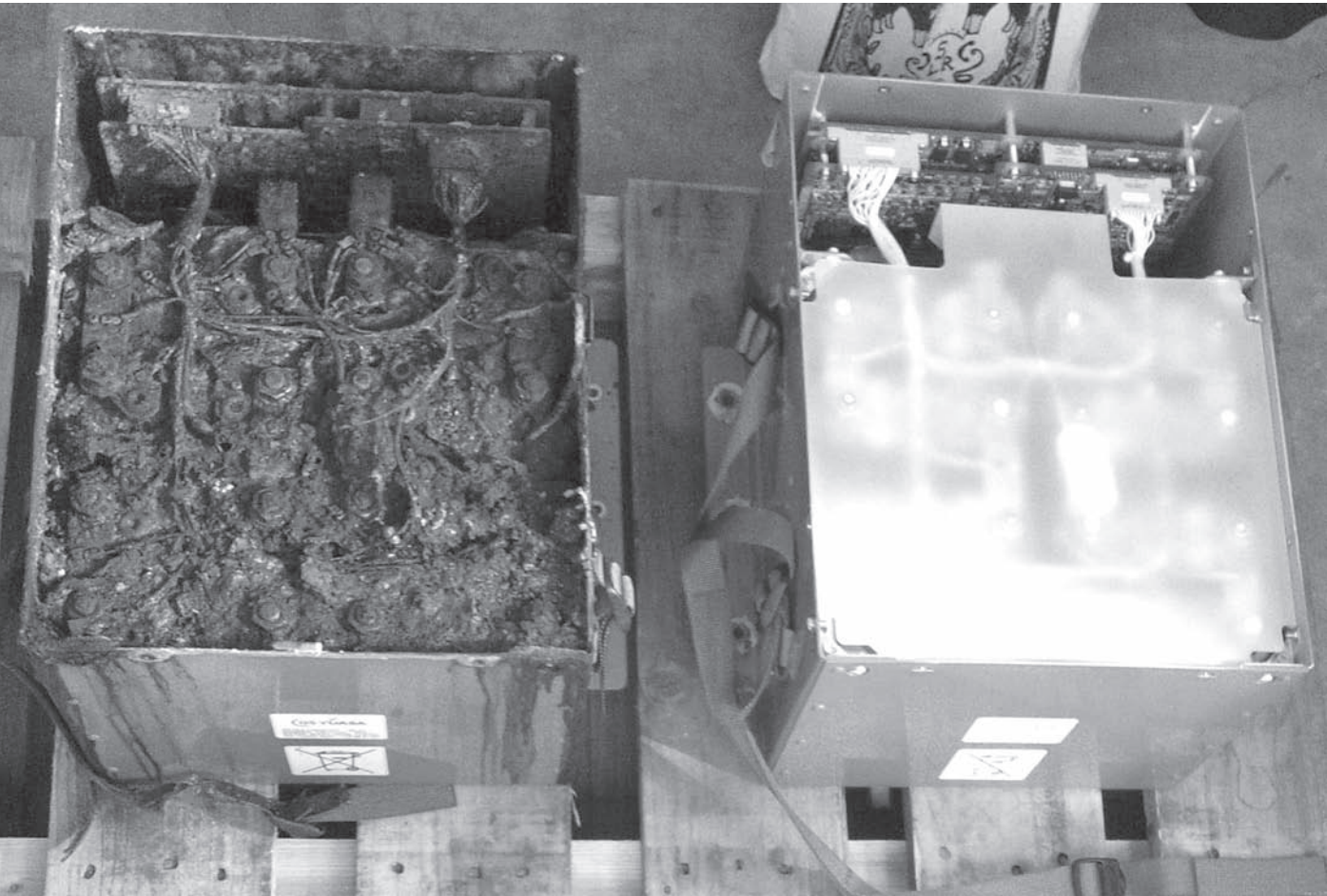
ANA spokeswoman Megumi Tezuka said the airline was not required to report the battery replacements to Japan's Transport Ministry because they did not interfere with flights and did not raise safety concerns. She said that having to replace batteries on aircraft is not uncommon and that it was not considered out of the ordinary.

Laura Brown, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman, said in Washington that the agency was checking whether the previous battery incidents had been reported by Boeing.

With 17 of the jets, ANA was Boeing's launch customer for the technologically advanced airliner. The airline has had to cancel hundreds of flights, affecting tens of thousands of people, but has sought to minimize disruptions by switching to other aircraft as much as possible.

The battery problems experienced by ANA before the emergency landing were first reported by The New York Times.

Japanese and U.S. investigators looking into the Boeing 787's battery problems shifted their attention this week from the battery-maker, GS Yuasa of Kyoto, Japan, to the manufacturer of a monitoring system. That company, Kanto Aircraft Instrument Co. makes a system that monitors voltage, charging and temperature of the lithium-ion batteries.



In this Thursday, Jan. 17, 2013 photo provided by the Japan Transport Safety Board shows the distorted main lithium-ion battery, left, and an undamaged auxiliary battery of the All Nippon Airways' Boeing 787 which made an emergency landing on Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013 at Takamatsu airport in Takamatsu, western Japan.

Judge rejects Apple's patent award demands

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A federal judge late Tuesday rejected Apple Inc.'s demand to increase the \$1.05 billion in damages a jury ordered Samsung Electronics Inc. to pay its fiercest rival in the smartphone market.

U.S. District Judge Lucy Koh also rejected demands from both companies to conduct another trial on different issues over claims that Samsung unfairly used technology controlled by Apple to build its iPads and iPhones to market knockoff products. She also upheld the validity of the Apple patents at the center of the dispute.

A jury in August found that Samsung "infringed" six Apple patents to create and market 26 smartphones and computer tablets and ordered the \$1.05 billion award. The jury found several other older Samsung products didn't infringe any Apple patents.

Earlier, the judge refused to block sales of the infringing products in the United States after she said Apple failed to show consumer demand for the Samsung devices was driven by the purloined technology, including the "pinch-to-zoom" function. Apple is appealing that decision.

Samsung contends that only three of the 26 older generation products are still offered for sale in the United States.

Apple has filed a new lawsuit contending that Samsung's current products are also using Apple technology. Koh scheduled trial for that matter in 2014.

In a series of four orders Tuesday night, the judge painstakingly considered each side's myriad claims that the nine-member jury wrongly considered evidence and misread complex patent law. With a few minor exceptions, the judge concluded that the jurors' got it right as far as the law goes.

"Accordingly, the trial was fairly conducted, with uniform time limits and rules of evidence applied to both sides," the judge said. "A new trial would be contrary to the interests of justice."

The judge is still considering Samsung's demands to reduce the \$1.05 billion award. The jurors had filled out a verdict form listing the damages Samsung owed Apple for each of the 26 products it found to have used infringing technology. Samsung contends that many of the line-item calculations were done incorrectly and that it was due a big reduction in the award.

Slow US economic growth in Q4 may hide strength

WASHINGTON (AP)—Most economists agree that Wednesday's snapshot of U.S. economic growth is going to look dismal.

The consensus forecast from Factset is economic growth slowed sharply from October through December to an annual rate of 1.2 percent. That's down from a 3.1 percent rate in the July-September quarter and would be the slowest in nearly two years.

Growth will probably remain sluggish at the start of the year because Americans are coming to grips with an increase in Social Security taxes that has left them with less take-home pay.

But economists are cautioning that the Commerce Department report may also highlight underlying strengths that could propel the economy in the second half of 2013.

"This is not as bad as it looks," said Nigel Gault, an economist at IHS Global Insight, who is forecasting a measly 0.3 percent expansion in the fourth quarter.

A key reason economists are not too worried is the weakness was probably the result of a number of one-time factors: slower growth in stockpiles, less government spending and a wider trade gap.

Those factors likely offset faster growth in consumer spending and the seventh straight quarter in which housing contributed to economic growth. Businesses may even have invested more in equipment and software.

Critical, long-overdue BlackBerry makeover arrives

TORONTO (AP)—BlackBerry maker Research In Motion Ltd. will kick off a critical, long-overdue makeover when chief executive Thorsten Heins shows off the first phone with the new BlackBerry 10 system in New York on Wednesday.

Repeated delays have left the once-pioneering BlackBerry an afterthought in the shadow of Apple's trend-setting iPhone and Google's Android-driven devices. There has even been talk that the fate of the company that created the BlackBerry in 1999 is no longer certain.

Now, there's some optimism. Previews of the BlackBerry 10 software have gotten favorable reviews on blogs. Financial analysts are starting to see some slight room for a comeback. RIM's stock has more than doubled to \$15.66 from a nine-year low in September, though it's still nearly 90 percent below its 2008 peak of \$147.

RIM redesigned the system to embrace the multimedia, apps and touch-screen experience prevalent today. The company is promising a speedier device, a superb typing experience and the ability to keep work and personal identities separate on the same phone.

Most analysts consider a BlackBerry 10 success to be crucial for the company's long-term viability. Doubts remain about the ability of BlackBerry 10 to rescue RIM.

"We'll see if they can reclaim their glory. My sense is that it will be a phone that everyone says good things about but not as many people buy," BGC Financial analyst Colin Gillis said.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW 13,954.42 +72.49 +0.52%	S&P 1,507.84 +7.66 +0.51%	NASDAQ 3,153.66 -0.64 -0.02%
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EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	0.9553	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7583	Philippine Peso	40.73
British Pound	0.635	Indian Rupee	53.56	Singapore Dollar	1.2355
Canadian Dollar	1.0021	Indonesian Rupiah	9683	South Korean Won	1086.35
Chinese Yuan	6.2264	Japanese Yen	90.965	Swiss Franc	0.9226
Euro	0.7415	Malaysian Ringgit	3.0788	Taiwan Dollar	29.552
		New Zealand Dollar	1.1962	Thailand Baht	29.79

Nation

Obama on immigration overhaul: 'Now is the time'

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Declaring “now is the time” to fix the nation’s broken immigration system, President Barack Obama on Tuesday outlined broad proposals for putting millions of illegal immigrants on a clear path to citizenship while cracking down on businesses that employ people illegally and tightening security at the borders. He hailed a bipartisan Senate group on a similar track but left unresolved key details that could derail the complex and emotional effort.

Potential Senate roadblocks center on how to structure the avenue to citizenship and on whether legislation would cover same-sex couples—and that’s all before a Senate measure could be debated, approved and sent to the Republican-controlled House where opposition is sure to be stronger.

Obama, who carried Nevada in the November election with heavy Hispanic support, praised the Senate push, saying Congress is showing “a genuine desire to get this done soon.” But mindful of previous immigrations efforts that have failed, he warned that the debate would be difficult and vowed to send his own legislation to Capitol Hill if lawmakers don’t act quickly.

“The question now is simple,” Obama said during a campaign-style event in Las Vegas, one week after being sworn in for a second term in the White House. “Do we have the resolve as a people, as a country, as a government to finally put this issue behind us? I believe that we do.”

Shortly after Obama finished speaking, cracks emerged between the White House and the group of eight senators, which put out their proposals one day ahead of the president. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, a potential 2016 presidential candidate, faulted Obama for not making a citizenship pathway contingent on tighter border security, a central tenet of the lawmakers’ proposals.

“The president’s speech left the impression that he believes reforming immigration quickly is more important than reforming immigration right,” Rubio said in a statement.

House Speaker John Boehner also responded coolly, with spokesman Brendan Buck saying the Ohio Republican hoped the president would be “careful not to drag the debate to the left and ultimately disrupt the difficult work that is ahead in the House and Senate.”

Despite possible obstacles to come, the broad agreement between the White House and bipartisan lawmakers

in the Senate represents a drastic shift in Washington’s willingness to tackle immigration, an issue that has languished for years. Much of that shift is politically motivated, due to the growing influence of Hispanics in presidential and other elections and their overwhelming support for Obama in November.

The separate White House and Senate proposals focus on the same principles: providing a way for most of the estimated 11 million people already in the U.S. illegally to become citizens, strengthening border security, cracking down on employers who hire illegal immigrants and streamlining the legal immigration system.

A consensus around the question of citizenship could help lawmakers clear one major hurdle that has blocked previous immigration efforts. Many Republicans have opposed allowing illegal immigrants to become citizens, saying that would be an unfair reward for people who have broken the law.

Details on how to achieve a pathway to citizenship still could prove to be a major sticking point between the White House and the Senate group.

Obama and the Senate lawmakers all want to require people here illegally to register with the government, pass criminal and national security background checks, pay fees and penalties as well as back taxes and wait until existing immigration backlogs are cleared before getting in line for green cards. Neither proposal backs up those requirements with specifics.

After achieving legal status, U.S. law says people can become citizens after five years.

The Senate proposal says that entire process couldn’t start until the borders were fully secure and tracking of people in the U.S. on visas had improved. Those vague requirements would almost certainly make the timeline for achieving citizenship longer than what the White House is proposing. The president urged lawmakers to avoid making the citizenship pathway so difficult that it would appear out of reach for many illegal immigrants.

“We all agree that these men and women have to earn their way to citizenship,” he said. “But for comprehensive immigration reform to work, it must make clear from the outset that there is a pathway to citizenship.”

“It won’t be a quick process, but it will be a fair process,” Obama added.

Another key difference between the



President Barack Obama speaks about immigration reform Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2013, at Del Sol High School in Las Vegas.

AP

White House and Senate proposals is the administration’s plan to allow same-sex partners to seek visas under the same rules that govern other family immigration. The Senate principles do not recognize same-sex partners, though Democratic lawmakers have told gay rights groups that they could seek to include that in a final bill.

John McCain of Arizona, who is part of the Senate immigration group, called the issue a “red flag” in an interview Tuesday on “CBS This Morning.”

Washington last took up immigration changes in a serious way in 2007, when then-President George W. Bush pressed for an overhaul. The initial efforts had bipartisan support but eventually collapsed in the Senate because of a lack of GOP support.

Cognizant of that failed effort, the White House has readied its own immigration legislation. But officials said Obama will send it to the Hill only if the Senate process stalls.

Most of the recommendations Obama made Tuesday were not new. They were included in the immigration blueprint he released in 2011, but he exerted little political capital to get it passed by Congress, to the disappointment of many Hispanics.

Some of the recommendations in the Senate plan are also pulled from past immigration efforts. The senators involved in formulating the latest proposals, in addition to McCain and Rubio, are Democrats Charles Schumer of New York, Dick Durbin of Illinois, Robert Menendez of New Jersey and Michael Bennet of Colorado, and Republicans Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, and Jeff Flake of Arizona.

Also Tuesday, in another sign of Congress’ increased attention to immigration issues, a group of four senators introduced legislation aimed at allowing more high-tech workers into the country, a longtime priority of technology businesses. The bill by Republicans Rubio and Orrin Hatch and Democrats Amy Klobuchar and Chris Coons would increase the number of visas available for high-tech workers, make it easier for them to change jobs once here and for their spouses to work and aim to make it easier for foreigners at U.S. universities to remain here upon graduation.

Comparing plans

How President Barack Obama’s immigration reform plan compares to that introduced by a bipartisan group of senators:

	Senate plan	Obama plan
Path to citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Path would not begin until increased border security measures completed • Create commission of lawmakers, border-state leaders to make security recommendations • Illegal immigrants can register, pass background checks, pay fines, back taxes to gain “probationary legal status”; after borders secure • Those with “probationary status” can apply for permanent residency behind those already in line; must learn English, show U.S. work history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Provisional legal status” and green card are intermediary steps not dependant on completion of border security • Illegal immigrants get “status” by registering, passing background checks, paying fees, penalties • Those with “status” can apply for permanent residency behind those already in line • Can apply for citizenship five years after getting permanent residency
Border security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add unmanned drones, other surveillance and more agents at and between ports of entry • Create an entry-exit system to make sure people on temporary visas have left as required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve infrastructure at ports of entry; use public-private partnerships to boost investment in technology for foreign visitor processing • Create new criminal penalties for those who smuggle people, drugs, weapons, money; crack down on passport, visa fraud
Young illegal immigrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People brought to U.S. as children would have quicker path to citizenship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People brought to U.S. as children would have same path to citizenship, but could speed path by attending college, serving for two years in military
Legal immigrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce backlogs in family and employment visas • Allow more lower-skilled immigrants to come to U.S. when economy is creating jobs than when it’s not • Permit workers who have succeeded in workplace, contributed to their communities to earn green cards • Create agricultural worker program; allow employers to hire immigrants if they can show U.S. workers aren’t available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise annual cap for how many family-sponsored immigrants can come from any given country from 7 to 15 percent • Create “start-up” visa for job-creating entrepreneurs; expand visa opportunities for those who invest in U.S. • Allow greater flexibility to add countries to visa waiver program for tourists; let State Dept. waive interview requirements for low-risk visitors
High-skilled workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give green cards to immigrants who earn advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) from U.S. schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give green cards to immigrants who earn advanced degrees in STEM fields from U.S. schools • Create new visa category for highly skilled immigrants to work in federal science, technology labs on national security programs after being in U.S. for two years, pass background check
Same-sex couples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No provision allowing sponsorship of same-sex partner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows U.S. citizens and permanent residents to sponsor visa for same-sex partner
Agricultural workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm workers in U.S. illegally would have quicker path to citizenship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm workers in U.S. illegally would have same path to citizenship
Employment verification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create nonforgeable electronic system for requiring prospective worker to demonstrate legal status, identity • Stiff fines, criminal penalties for employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create fraud-resistant Social Security card; create nonforgeable documents for those without Social Security card • Increase penalties for employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants • Phase in mandatory electronic employment verification; exemptions for some small businesses

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Source: AP

Senate confirms Kerry nomination for State Dept.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate overwhelmingly confirmed President Barack Obama’s choice of five-term Sen. John Kerry to be secretary of state, with Republicans and Democrats praising him as the ideal successor to Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The vote Tuesday was 94-3. One senator—Kerry—voted present and accepted congratulations from colleagues on the Senate floor. The roll call came just hours after the Senate Foreign Relations Committee unanimously approved the man who has led the panel for the past four years.

No date has been set for Kerry’s swearing-in, though a welcoming ceremony is planned at the State Department on Monday. Obama tapped Kerry, 69, the son of a diplomat, decorated Vietnam veteran and 2004 Democratic presidential candidate, to succeed Clinton, who is stepping down after four years.

The Massachusetts Democrat, who had pined for the job but was passed over in 2009, has served as Obama’s unofficial envoy, smoothing fractious ties with Afghanistan and Pakistan.



Kerry

“Sen. Kerry will need no introduction to the world’s political and military leaders and will begin Day One fully conversant not only with the intricacies of U.S. foreign policy, but able to act on a multitude of international stages,” said Sen. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., who will succeed Kerry as committee chairman.

Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, the panel’s top Republican, called Kerry “a realist” who will deal with unrest in Egypt, civil war in Syria, the threat of

al-Qaida-linked groups in Africa and Iran’s pursuit of nuclear weapons.

Kerry, a forceful proponent of climate change legislation, also will have a say in whether the United States moves ahead on the Keystone XL pipeline from Canada, a divisive issue that has roiled environmentalists.

Obama had nominated Kerry after Susan Rice, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, removed her name from consideration following criticism from Republicans over her initial comments about the attacks on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

Voting against Kerry were three Republicans—Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma and John Cornyn and Ted Cruz of Texas. Absent from the vote were Sens. Patty Murray, D-Wash., and John Hoeven, R-N.D.

“Sen. Kerry has a long history of liberal positions that are not consistent with a majority of Texans,” Cornyn said in a statement. The senator is up for re-election next year and could face a tea party challenge.

Kerry’s smooth path to the nation’s top diplomatic job stands in stark contrast to the harsher treatment for Obama’s other national security nominees—Chuck Hagel to be defense secretary and John Brennan to be CIA director.

Asia

China urged to face PH at UN tribunal

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A senior U.S. lawmaker meeting with Philippine officials said Tuesday that China should agree to face the Philippines before a U.N. arbitration tribunal to avoid a possible crisis over their long-raging territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

The Philippines took a daring legal step last week when it notified China that it will challenge Beijing's claims to virtually the entire South China Sea in a case before an arbitration

tribunal under the 1982 U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea. China has not issued a formal response, but its ambassador to Manila, Ma Keqing, has reiterated Beijing's "indisputable sovereignty" over the contested region.

Rep. Ed Royce, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said Washington takes no sides in the territorial conflicts but backs an internationally accepted diplomatic solution. "It is best that China joins the

process so that we can move forward under international law," the California Republican told The Associated Press after meeting Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario and other diplomats in Manila.

"We want to calm the tensions," Royce said. "We want this approached from the standpoint of diplomacy, and that is what we are conveying because in that way we don't create crisis which roils the markets or creates uncertainty."

UN, experts poised to confirm any NKorean blast

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—With North Korea appearing set to detonate an atomic device, the U.N. agency that detected two previous tests says it is prepared to confirm an explosion when it takes place. But experts say it might be difficult to establish whether the blast is nuclear in nature.

The best indication of a test will be seismic tremors and gas-

es released into the air, phenomena that the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty identified from previous testing.

The Vienna-based organization's most potent detection tools are more than 150 seismic stations across the globe. Although very small in yield, North Korea's first test in 2006 was picked up by the CTBTO,

as was a second test in 2009.

Last week, North Korea warned that it plans a third nuclear test to protest toughened international sanctions meant to punish it for firing a long-range rocket in December. The world sees the launch as a ballistic missile test banned by the U.N., while Pyongyang says it launched a satellite into orbit as part of a peaceful space development program.



DEAD ELEPHANTS

In this Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2013 photo released by Sabah Wildlife Department, a 3-month-old elephant calf tries to wake its dead mother at the Gunung Rara Forest Reserve in Sabah, Malaysia. Ten endangered Borneo pygmy elephants have been found dead in the Malaysian forest under mysterious circumstances, and wildlife authorities suspect that they were poisoned.

AP

ASIAN BRIEFS

Protesters in India demand death for rapists

NEW DELHI (AP)—Scores of protesters gathered near India's Parliament on Tuesday demanding the death penalty for six men accused in the fatal gang rape of a young woman on a bus in New Delhi last month. The protesters carried placards saying, "Give us Justice, Hang the Rapists," and shouted slogans before conducting a mock hanging of the men who are facing trial in a special court in New Delhi. Meanwhile, India's Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected a petition to move the trial out of New Delhi.

Myanmar abolishes 25-year ban on public gatherings

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar's nearly 2-year-old reformist government has abolished a ban on public gatherings of more than five people that was ordered in 1988 on the day a military junta took power after crushing nationwide pro-democracy protests. The state-run Myanma Ahlin

newspaper reported Tuesday that Order No 2/88 was abolished as it was not in line with a section of the constitution that says existing laws should remain valid as long as are not contrary to the constitution, which guarantees basic rights such as freedom of expression.

Thai king advised to rest after having mild fever

BANGKOK (AP)—Doctors have advised Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej to rest after he suffered from a mild fever for a week. The Royal Household Bureau said in a statement Tuesday that the 85-year-old king also had little appetite and was weak. It said daily physical checkups showed the monarch was breathing slightly faster than normal. The palace said the king suffered pain in his knees on Tuesday and doctors found they were swollen. It said blood tests showed he did not have any bacterial infection. The palace added that doctors have advised the king to refrain from his official duties for a while.

World

Peace envoy: Syria is 'being destroyed'

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The international envoy to Syria told the Security Council on Tuesday that "Syria is being destroyed bit by bit" and his mediation effort cannot go forward unless the council unites to push the Syrian government and opposition forces toward some compromise.

The Security Council has been divided over Syria for months, with the United States, Britain, France and other Western powers backing the armed opposition and pushing for resolutions that raised the threat of sanctions. Three times, Russia and China have cast vetoes to block those resolutions.

"I'm embarrassed to be repeating the same thing: Syria is being destroyed," Lakhdar Brahimi, the joint U.N.-Arab League envoy to Syria, said after closed-door consultations with the Security Council.

Brahimi blamed both Syrian President Bashar Assad's government and the Western-backed opposition forces.

"Objectively, they are co-operating to destroy Syria. Syria is being destroyed bit by bit. And in destroying Syria, the region is being pushed into a situation that is extremely bad, and extremely important for the entire world," Brahimi said.

He said that is why the Security Council has a duty to overcome its divisions.

Brahimi suggested that the Security Council revisit the Geneva Communiqué of June 2012, a broad but ambiguous proposal endorsed by the Western powers and Russia to provide a basis for negotiations.

Assad's role in any transition government was a red line during the negotiations of the Geneva Communiqué, and was left vague. The United States and Russia continue to disagree on Assad's role, though both signed off on the communiqué.

Egypt army chief warns state could collapse

PORT SAID, Egypt (AP)—Residents of this Mediterranean coastal city burying their dead from Egypt's wave of political violence vented their fury at Egypt's Islamist president and the Muslim Brotherhood on Tuesday, demanding his ouster and virtually declaring a revolt against his rule, as the head of the military warned

Egypt may collapse under the weight of its turmoil.

Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi's strongly worded comments, his first since the crisis began, appeared aimed at pushing both sides in Egypt's political divide to reconcile and find a solution to the rapidly spreading protests and riots across much of the country the

past six days.

But his breaking of his silence falls heaviest on President Mohammed Morsi, who has been unable to contain the unrest by trying a tough hand, as protesters defied his declaration of a month-long state of emergency and curfew in Port Said and two neighboring cities.

In recaptured city in Mali, Islamists hunted down

GAO, Mali (AP)—Residents in Mali's newly liberated city of Gao hunted down and beat suspected Islamist extremists who had not fled with their brothers-in-arms as Malian and French military forces closed in and retook the town.

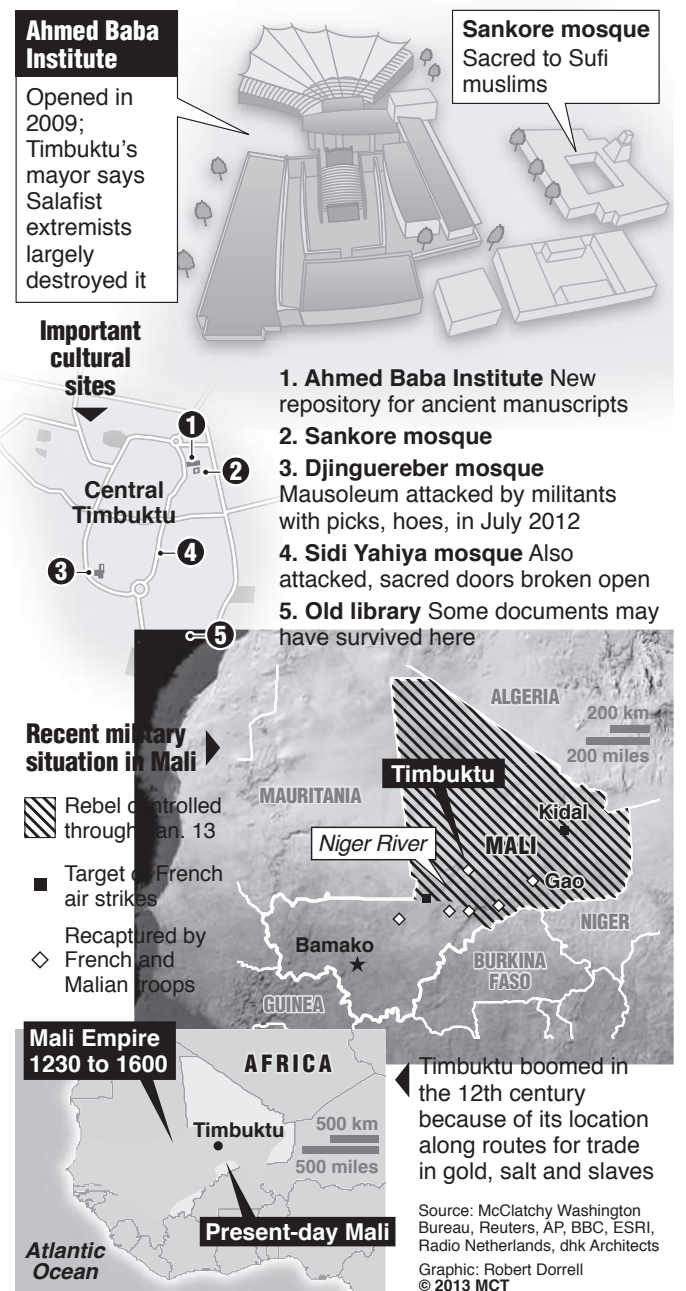
Malian troops bundled the men into an army truck Tuesday, their hands bound behind their backs. For the better part of a year, the al-Qaida-linked extremists had banned music, insisted women cover themselves and began carrying out public executions and amputations in the towns of northern Mali that they controlled.

Now the Islamists' control of the cities has slipped, with the provincial capitals of Gao and Timbuktu coming back under government authority in quick succession with the arrival of French and Malian troops. They also may have lost control of a third key city, Kidal.

France, the former colonial ruler, began sending in troops, helicopters and warplanes on Jan. 11 to turn the tide after the armed Islamists began encroaching on the south, toward the capital. French and Malian troops seized Gao during the weekend, welcomed by joyous crowds. They took Timbuktu on Monday. The Islamists gave up both cities and retreated into the desert.

Ancient manuscripts destroyed

Islamist extremists have fled the ancient city of Timbuktu as French-led forces retook the city. The militants reportedly did major damage to cultural sites during their 10-month rule over the city.



Environment

A. Samoa gets \$269,000 grant to conserve coastal wetlands »First National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant awarded to American Samoa

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe announced yesterday \$20 million in grants to 24 critical coastal wetland projects in 13 states and territories to conserve and restore coastal wetlands and their fish and wildlife habitat. An additional \$21.3 million in matching funds will be provided by partner contributions from state and local governments, private landowners, and conservation groups through the 2013 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants Program.

“When President Obama unveiled his America’s Great Outdoors initiative three years ago, our goal was to work with communities across the country to create a 21st century conservation ethic,” Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar said. “Our coastal grants program is a model of this kind of partnership, conserving vital wetlands hand-in-hand in partners from Maine to the Pacific Northwest to as far away as American Samoa in the South Pacific.”

The announcement marks the first time in the program’s history that American Samoa has received a National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant. The \$269,000 grant will be used by the American Samoa Department of Commerce and its partners to restore 18.3 acres of coastal wetland habitat in Leone Village. Partners will provide \$93,850 in matching funds to restore the wetland and address the degradation and loss of coastal wetland and coral reef habitat in Leone Village, including damage from a devastating 2009 tsunami event.

The Leone wetland area consists of one of the largest and most important mangrove swamps in American Samoa, which was designated as a Special Management Area in 1990. The four main project activities being proposed are community management, tsunami debris removal, coral reef restoration, and mangrove restoration. Community members will participate in all phases of restoration. Enhancing and improving the wetland habitats will benefit the marine, freshwater and terrestrial wildlife associated with mangroves and coral reefs, as well as increase the resiliency of the ecosystem to future impacts from natural disasters and climate change.

Coastal areas comprise less than 10 percent of the nation’s land area yet support a significant number of wildlife species, including 75 percent of migratory birds, nearly 80 percent of fish and shellfish, and about half of all threatened and endangered species.

Coastal wetlands also serve as some of nature’s most productive fish and wildlife habitat while providing improved water quality and abundant recreational opportunities for local communities. These grants will help state partners implement some high-quality projects that support conservation and outdoor recreation.”

The grants will be used to acquire, restore or enhance coastal wetlands and adjacent uplands to pro-



Leone Bay in American Samoa.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

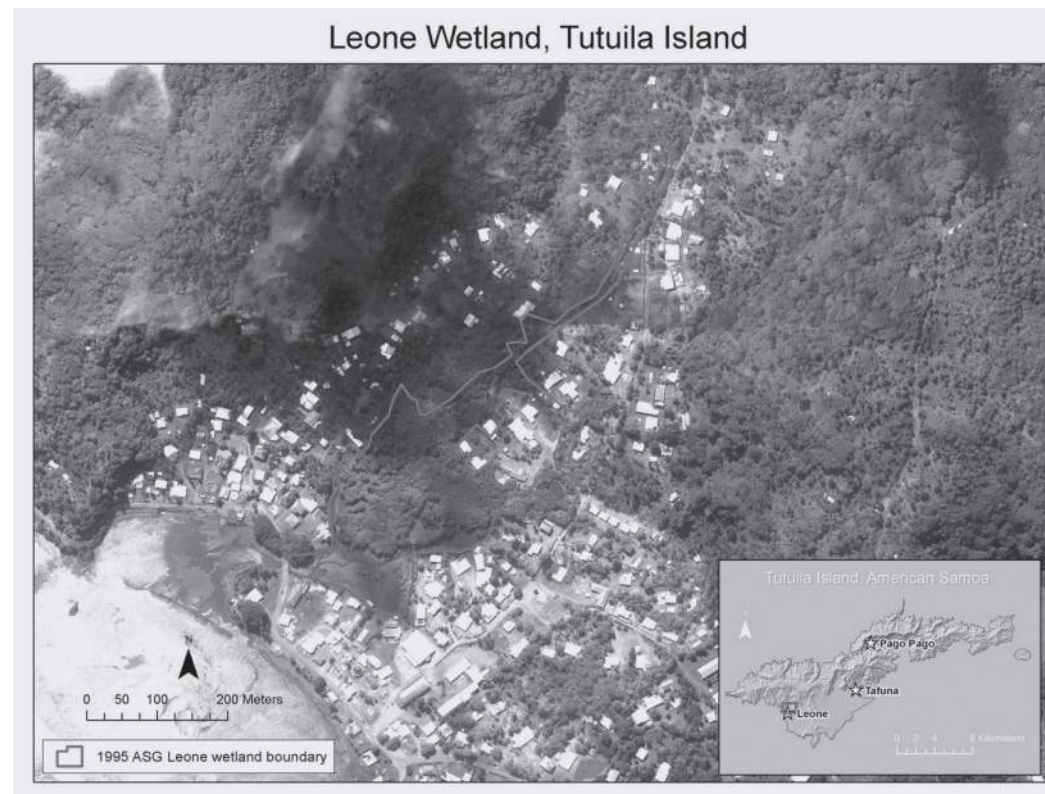
vide long-term conservation benefits to fish, wildlife and their habitat. States and territories receiving funds are California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, and American Samoa.

The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and funded under provisions of the 1990 Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act. Funding is provided by Sport Fish Restoration Act revenue—money generated from an excise tax on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels.

The grants support Obama’s America’s Great Out-

doors initiative for conservation, recreation and reconnecting people to the outdoors. A 50-State Report lists more than 100 of the country’s most promising projects—a result of meetings with governors and stakeholders held by Salazar and other senior Interior officials to solicit ideas on how to best implement America’s Great Outdoors initiative in their states.

Including the 2013 grants, the Service has awarded about \$320 million to coastal states and territories since the program began in 1992. When the 2013 projects are complete, about 298,000 acres of habitat will have been protected, restored or enhanced as a direct result of these grants. (FWS)



The American Samoa Leone Wetland.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

‘Homeland’ film shown this Friday

First Friday Films is showing a new film titled *Homeland: Four Portraits of Native Action* this Friday, Feb. 1, at 6:30pm at American Memorial Park’s theater as part of its ongoing monthly film series.

Nearly all Indian lands in the U.S. face grave environmental threats—toxic waste, strip mining, oil drilling and nuclear contamination. But a handful of activists are fighting back. Filmed against some of America’s most spectacular backdrops, from Alaska to Maine and Montana to New Mexico, *Homeland: Four Portraits of Native Action* profiles

the against-all-odds struggles of Native American leaders who are taking on powerful energy companies and government agencies to protect the environment for all Americans. A moving tribute to the power of grassroots organizing, *Homeland* is also a call-to-action against the current dismantling of 30 years of environmental laws.

Before the film, we will hear about grassroots efforts taking place on Saipan from members of the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance. MINA has been an environmental presence on Saipan for

years, engaging young local community members and building support for initiatives that protect and preserve our island’s resources.

First Friday Films is a partnership between American Memorial Park, the Division of Environmental Quality, the Coastal Resources Management Office and the Humanities Council, with support from other organizations. This particular film is sponsored by the Humanities Council. As always, our film events are free and open to the public. For planning purposes, this event will run about 90 minutes.

For more information about First Friday Films, email ffisaipan@gmail.com or check out firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. (PR)

DO YOUR PART

It won’t cost you a penny

By **TERRI BENNETT**
MCT INFORMATION SERVICES

Many times when we talk about “going green” we think about how much green it will cost us. However, there are many ways to live a healthier life and be gentler on the environment without spending a single penny. Here are five simple ways to Do Your Part and not only are they all free—some solutions will also save you money.

STOP BUYING WATER

Ditching plastic bottles of water and using reusable containers will save big bucks in the long run. But there are other situations where we pay for water without realizing it. Opting to buy concentrated juices is a cheaper alternative to buying many jugs of juice. You’ll save about a nickel on ounce. And, instead of using expensive irrigation systems in your yard, rain barrels or other collection devices will do the work for free.

SELL THE SMALL STUFF

Got gadgets and other electronics collecting dust around your home? They are valuable even if they don’t work. Many major retailers now accept old electronics and will give you a store gift card in return. And, many online sites will pay to have you ship them your stuff and you’ll get a check after they receive it. These items get resold or recycled for metal. Check DoYourPart.com/Columns for a list of resources. Also, consider taking gently worn clothing, sporting equipment, and even children’s gear to consignment shops to earn a few dollars.

REFUSE TO WASTE GAS

No one likes what it costs to fill up our cars at the gas station. To maximize your fuel efficiency and lower toxic emissions, make sure to keep your tires properly inflated, avoid aggressive driving where you accelerate and brake frequently, use cruise control on flat terrain, avoid driving around with extra weight, and keep up with routine maintenance. Another smart idea is to turn the engine off when you’ll be idling for more than 30 seconds in places such as carpool lines.

PUT AN END TO PAPER TOWELS

What’s worse than throwing out barely used paper towels? Spending all that money on them. The cheapest paper towels on the market are about a dollar per roll. If you go through two rolls a week, that’s more than \$200 a year! Save that money and keep dish towels and rags handy. It’s much more eco-friendly to launder them than it is to keep buying one-use paper towels.

LIGHTEN YOUR LAUNDRY’S LOAD

Get this, up to 85 percent of the energy used to wash clothes comes from heating up the water. When you switch to cold water you’ll see instant energy savings and your clothes will still get clean.

Visit DoYourPart.com/Columns for more everyday living solutions to have you saving even more green.

Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, eco-expert and author of Do Your Part: A practical guide for everyday green living available at DoYourPart.com. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com.

Life & Style

A final '30 Rock' showcases its unsung music man

NEW YORK (AP)—"When stuff is coming to an end, people freak out and they act crazy," says Liz Lemon.

Liz and all the characters of "30 Rock" are doing just that on the series finale (airing Thursday at 8 p.m. EST on NBC) as they produce one last installment of their show-within-that-show, "TGS," while anticipat-

ing life apart from one another.

But Jeff Richmond wasn't freaking out, not even with the end (and a tight deadline) breathing down his neck: Just last Friday he was in a studio in midtown Manhattan, closeted with an eight-piece string ensemble, his baton raised, recording interludes of background music for that final episode.

After seven seasons (plus 14 Emmys, six Golden Globes and a Peabody Award), there are many reasons to remember "30 Rock" fondly:

The silky self-importance of soon-to-be-former Kabletown CEO Jack Donaghy (played by Alec Baldwin). The naked, comically off-kilter ambition of "TGS" star Jenna Maroney (played by

Jane Krakowski). The manic abandon of her co-star, Tracy Jordan (played by Tracy Morgan).

There's Kenneth, the toothy true believer (played by Jack McBrayer), who last week was promoted from janitor to president of NBC.

And could any viewer ever forget the unexpected newlywed and mother of adopted twins played by "30 Rock" mastermind Tina Fey? As the frazzled, none-too-spunky producer of "TGS," Liz Lemon has been a new-millennium Mary Richards for whom "you're gonna make it after all" always seemed a long shot.

But Jeff Richmond—an unseen, unsung hero of "30 Rock"—has been essential, too, for his service as the composer and arranger of the show's distinctive score (in addition to his duties as executive producer and, by the way, Fey's husband of 12 years).

At the show's inception, Richmond composed the "30 Rock" theme song, which, in its tight 17 seconds, teems with cultural references and preparation for the show it introduces.

"It's got a Gene Krupa drum thing and a baritone saxophone, like you'd hear in a burlesque

show," he says, listing some of its influences, "and it's very New York—Cy Coleman, Frank Loesser. And the doo-wop singers make it feel a little retro."

For fans of "30 Rock," that theme by now seems second-nature.

But every week since the show debuted in fall 2006, Richmond has fashioned the background music that sonically frames the madcap action.

"The writers do such a great job creating these intricate stories," he said. "The music helps clue the audience in to the recurring patterns and themes."



This image released by NBC shows Tina Fey as Liz Lemon, left, and Jane Krakowski as Jenna Maroney in a scene from the series finale of "30 Rock," airing Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013 on NBC.

Italians seek return of Salieri's remains

By COLLEEN BARRY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILAN (AP)—Residents of a provincial city in northern Italy are seeking to reclaim the remains of its best-known son, composer Antonio Salieri.

Salieri left his birthplace of Legnago, south of Verona, as a teen in 1766 to pursue his musical ambitions in Vienna, where he mostly remained until his death in 1825. He was one of the Habsburg court's favorite composers, and is perhaps best remembered in popular culture as Mozart's chief rival.

Rumors in his lifetime, dismissed by authoritative sources as slanderous, even claimed that Salieri poisoned Mozart.

A group called "Legnago for Salieri" is asking the city to use diplomacy to recover his remains from Vienna's largest and most important cemetery, Zentralfriedhof, where such musical luminaries as Ludwig van Beethoven, Johannes Brahms and Franz Schubert also have been buried.

Organizer Franco Bozzolin said Tuesday that the "noble initiative" was inspired by local pride. The last known attempt to

return Salieri's remains to Italy failed during World War II.

"We believe this mission is possible, but it will be a long road as it involves institutions in two countries," Bozzolin said.

The cultural foundation supporting the Salieri Theater in Legnago has not taken an official position on the campaign. But theater director Federico Pupo noted that Salieri's musical successes were mostly in Vienna.

"Therefore, I think it is correct that he rests in the city that he himself chose, and that benefited him so much," Pupo said in an email.

CHART TOPPERS

iTunes' Official Charts for the week ending Jan. 28, 2013:

TOP SONGS

1. "Thrift Shop (feat. Wanz)," Ryan Lewis, Macklemore
2. "I Knew You Were Trouble," Taylor Swift
3. "Scream & Shout (feat. Britney Spears)," will.i.am
4. "Love Me (feat. Drake & Future)," Lil Wayne
5. "Ho Hey," The Lumineers
6. "Don't You Worry Child (Radio Edit) (feat. John Martin)," Swedish House Mafia
7. "Locked Out of Heaven," Bruno Mars
8. "Suit & Tie (feat. JAY Z)," Justin Timberlake
9. "Daylight," Maroon 5
10. "Home," Phillip Phillips

TOP ALBUMS

1. "Pitch Perfect (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)," Various Artists
2. "Set You Free," Gary Allan
3. "The Lumineers," The Lumineers
4. "LONG.LIVE.A\$AP," A\$AP Rocky
5. "Night Visions," Imagine Dragons
6. "The Heist," Ryan Lewis, Macklemore
7. "Unorthodox Jukebox," Bruno Mars
8. "Babel," Mumford & Sons
9. "Red," Taylor Swift

10. "Believe Acoustic," Justin Bieber

(AceViral.com)

TOP PAID IPHONE APPS

1. CraftedBattle (C-Apps)
2. WhatsApp Messenger (WhatsApp Inc.)
3. Minecraft - Pocket Edition (Mojang)
4. Wood Camera - Vintage Photo Editor (Bright Mango)
5. Angry Birds Star Wars (Rovio Entertainment Ltd)
6. Plague Inc. (Ndemic Creations)
7. Free Music Download Pro Plus - Free Music Downloader and Player (ASPS Apps)
8. Scribblenauts Remix (Warner Bros.)
9. Bad Piggies (Rovio Entertainment Ltd)
10. Wipeout (Activision Publishing, Inc.)

TOP FREE IPHONE APPS

1. Temple Run 2 (Imangi Studios, LLC)
2. What's the Word? - new quiz with pics and words (RedSpell)
3. Ruzzle (MAG Interactive)
4. YouTube (Google, Inc.)
5. Google Maps (Google, Inc.)
6. Rail Rush (Miniclip.com)
7. Subway Surfers (Kiloo)
8. Fun Run - Multiplayer Race (dirtyBit)
9. Candy Crush Saga (King.com Limited)
10. Angry Gran Run

TOP PAID IPAD APPS

1. Minecraft - Pocket Edition (Mojang)
2. Banana Kong (FDG Entertainment)
3. Angry Birds Star Wars HD (Rovio Entertainment Ltd)
4. CraftedBattle (C-Apps)
5. Pages (Apple)
6. Bad Piggies HD (Rovio Entertainment Ltd)
7. Scribblenauts Remix (Warner Bros.)
8. Temple Run: Brave (Disney)
9. Notability - Take Notes & Annotate PDFs with Dropbox & Google Drive Sync (Ginger Labs)
10. Toca Hair Salon 2 (Toca Boca AB)

TOP FREE IPAD APPS

1. Temple Run 2 (Imangi Studios, LLC)
2. Ghostbusters (Beeline Interactive, Inc.)
3. YouTube ("Google, Inc.")
4. Angry Birds Rio HD (Rovio Entertainment Ltd)
5. Calculator for iPad Free (International Travel Weather Calculator)
6. Rail Rush (Miniclip.com)
7. Candy Crush Saga (King.com Limited)
8. Skype for iPad (Skype Communications S.a.r.l)
9. Gesundheit! HD (Revolutionary Concepts)
10. Subway Surfers (Kiloo)

In Loving Memory of †Manuel Castro Villagomez

Born on December 14, 1948
and was called to eternal rest
on January 24, 2013.

In his new life, he now joins his:

Father: †Vicente Seman Villagomez

Mother: †Rosalia Castro Villagomez

Sisters: †Anna Villagomez, †Maria Villagomez, †Virginia Kalp

His loving memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Dolores S. Villagomez

Children: Rick/Lillian, Reagan/Joan, Jeff/Jereesa, Jennifer/Marvin, Rosalyn, Manuel "JR"/Tracy

Grandchildren: Richie John, Maekaila, Kyle, Dazha, Ricardo, Syaie, Jevaughn, Kanicia, Ricco, Reagan Junior

Brothers and Sisters: Rita O' Haire, Frances Muna, Tona Winter, Connie Guerrero, Pedro Villagomez, Diana Villagomez, Vicente Villagomez, Joseph Villagomez, Raymond Villagomez, John Mendiola, Florence Mendiola

Daily mass is offered at San Vicente Church at 6:00pm, followed by the rosary.

His remains will arrive on Wednesday, January 30, 2013 at 2:20pm and will be brought to Borja Funeral Home.

On Friday, February 1, 2013, at 7:30am, his remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to Mount Carmel Cathedral. Rosary will be offered at 8:00am, followed by the final viewing and last respect.

Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11:00am, followed by the Interment Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

The Family

Pacino's late comedic turn also a homecoming

NEW YORK (AP)—Al Pacino, energized by a conversation that has inevitably turned to the intricacies of acting, is snapping his fingers.

"When you get me on the acting trail, I get on that train," he says, punctuating what he calls an improvised "thesis on time" with staccato snaps. The 72-year-old may be gray-haired and a little worn, but he remains, like a dancer, always on his toes, and still enamored of the "crazy, crazy, crazy thing" that is acting: "You're always looking for what's going to feed you, what's going to feed the spirit and get you going."

And Pacino is still getting going. Yet the subject of time—how much is needed to find a character (years in some cases, he says) and how it dictates the parts he chooses now—played a large role in a recent interview with the actor at the Waldorf Astoria in New York.

"Sometimes I'm tempted to

Chris Brown, Frank Ocean reportedly brawl over a parking spot

By **ANDREW BLANKSTEIN**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Los Angeles County sheriff's detectives say they want to speak with Chris Brown about a fight he reportedly got into with Frank Ocean over a parking space at a West Hollywood recording studio.

Brown allegedly punched Ocean in the brawl Sunday night in the 7200 block of Santa Monica Boulevard, officials said.

Brown is on probation for assaulting his girlfriend Rihanna in Los Angeles the night before the Grammys in February 2009. He also reportedly got into a fight with singer Drake last summer at a New York nightclub.

In the Sunday night incident, officials said deputies responded to a call of six men fighting at the recording studio. Witnesses told them Brown and Ocean were involved in a fight over a parking spot.

Ocean, who has a dog named Everest, later tweeted that he "got jumped by Chris and a couple guys. lol. i only wish everest was there."

After the brief fight, the parties were separated, officials said, and Brown and his entourage left before deputies arrived.

"Of course, we are going to investigate," sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said Monday. "It is our understanding it does not rise to the level of an alleged assault. As a matter of fact, it could be a minor scuffle over a parking spot."

"Chris Brown is a named suspect in a battery report," he continued. "The victim is desirous of prosecution."



This Dec. 7, 2012 photo shows Al Pacino in New York. Pacino stars in the new film, "Stand Up Guys."

say, 'Why am I doing this? Why am I still doing this?'" he says. "Then, after I don't do it for a while, I say: 'Oh, now I know why I still do it.' If I suddenly didn't want to do it anymore, that'd be fine, too. I'd probably be an usher again in a playhouse."

If Pacino is feeling reminiscent of his early days as a Bronx-born aspiring thespian knocking around in 1960s downtown New York theaters and cafes, it's partly because his recent work reflects on his beginnings. Not many know that Pacino started out as a comedian. He jokes that though he did a movie with Robin Williams ("Insomnia"), "he didn't know that I really wanted to be him."

Pacino, funny guy, has certainly been glimpsed before. But after a career better known for gangsters, crooks and Shakespearean villains, Pacino has lately been exercising his comedy chops. After finishing a revival run on Broadway of "Glengarry Glen

Ross" in which he played up the laughs as the desperate, over-the-hill salesman Shelley, Pacino stars in the crime comedy "Stand Up Guys," which Lionsgate will release Friday.

In it, he plays a former gangster, Val, released from prison after 28 years and taken around town to celebrate by his old friend, Doc (Christopher Walken), who does it remorsefully knowing that their boss wants Val killed by sunup. Their pal Richard (Alan Arkin) joins in the romp.

As he showed in "Scent of a Woman," Al Pacino is good company for a last-hurrah. Part of his enduring appeal, after all, is his pulsating zest for life. Whether firing a machine gun at the hip ("Scarface"), pursuing a story ("The Insider") or whipping a crowd into an "Attica"-chanting protest ("Dog Day Afternoon"), Pacino is the great agitator of American movies. Critics will make claims of over-acting, but no one ever slept through an Al Pacino performance.

"Some actors aren't connected and they don't invest," says "Stand Up Guys" director Fisher Stevens, a veteran New York actor and documentary producer. "Al is committed to everything he does, even if it's just playing poker. He does everything that way."

Stevens first met Pacino when he came to see him in a play two decades ago. It's the way many encounter Pacino; there are countless careers he's helped propel, from Kevin Spacey (whom he suggested for the 1992 film "Glengarry Glen Ross") to Jes-

sica Chastain (whom he cast in his Los Angeles production of Oscar Wilde's "Salome"). Pacino made a film about the production, "Wilde Salome," but it—like Pacino's beloved, largely unseen "The Local Stigmatic"—remains unreleased.

"That's what Al does with his movies, he just holds on to them like he's keeping his kids," says Stevens.

Pacino and Walken hadn't worked together before (except for separate scenes in—get ready for it—the Ben Affleck, Jennifer Lopez film "Gigli"), but they've been friends for decades, going back to the Actors Studio, where the long-involved Pacino is currently co-president. Reading through the parts, the two decided to switch roles in "Stand Up Guys."

While Pacino's "Godfather, Part II" co-star and cinematic counterpart Robert De Niro has focused on comedy late in his career, Pacino has been more scattershot. His most notable work in recent years was playing Shylock in an acclaimed 2010 production of "The Merchant of Venice" and an Emmy-winning turn as Dr. Jack Kevorkian in the HBO film "You Don't Know Jack." (In March, Pacino will return to HBO in another high-profile biopic, this time on Phil Spector.)

His fondness for broad comedy, though, helps explain the most inscrutable credit in Pacino's filmography: the 2011 Adam Sandler film "Jack and Jill," in which he, among other things, rapped a pseudo Dunkin' Donuts ad as "Dunkaccino."

'Pretty Little Liars' star's heart lies in music

NEW YORK (AP)—On the ABC Family series "Pretty Little Liars," Lucy Hale's character, Aria, has a passion for fashion. She wears lots of layers, textures and patterns.

"All credit goes to our costume designer, Mandi Line, who calls Aria her mini-me," Hale said in a recent interview. "This is how she dresses so it comes easy to her. This character has become her baby. Aria's the one that wears stripes and leopard print and neon all at once. Where one person will wear one trend, she'll wear all of the above but she's just fun."

"Pretty Little Liars," which airs Tuesdays (8 p.m. Eastern), is about a group of teenage girls who are being blackmailed by a mysterious group of people who go by the name A.

While Aria loves to express herself through clothes, Hale channels her emotions through music.

The 23-year-old was among the winners in 2003 of "American Juniors," a spinoff of "American Idol," where the final five formed a vocal quintet. They recorded an album but broke up in 2005.

Hale laughs that she was "just convinced I was the second coming to Kelly Clarkson."

She went into acting, landing roles on the short-lived TV

show "Privileged," movies like "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2" and "Scream 4."

Now she's decided to give music another go.

Hale signed with Hollywood Records and is recording a country album, produced by Mark Bright who's worked with Rascal Flatts, Carrie Underwood and Sara Evans. She's expected to release a single, followed by an album later this year.

"(The album) is something I wanted to do way before 'Pretty Little Liars' or anything. I grew up singing, and acting sort of came up along the way. ... (Recording) is a lot of weekends, it's a lot of long nights but I'm so passionate about it ... I'm just really excited," she said.

Hale, who was "born and bred in Tennessee," says she listened to country music as she was growing up.

"Country music to me is the best music in the world. It's storytelling and it means something and it can make you feel any emotion in the world and it's just where my heart is," she said.

Kristian Bush of the country duo Sugarland is writing songs with Hale for her album. In a recent phone interview, Bush

said he tried to discourage Hale because of all the hard work involved.

"I've had multiple record deals. ... Even when you're great it doesn't guarantee success," he said.

But Hale showed she was fearless, committed and has an impressive knowledge of country music.

"I would drive around in the car with her ... and she always

flips the station to the country station and always sings along louder than the radio. I'm like, 'How do you know that song? I don't even know that song. I've just heard of (the band) Florida Georgia Line. How

did you get that? Did you get an advance copy?' She just obsessively listens. Nothing creates a better writer or an artist than a great listener," Bush said.

Hale hopes country fans will accept her.

"Once you get in the circle of country music, you're in and they will stay with you for life," said Hale. "It's just going over the hurdle of getting in there because they don't just let anyone in. Look at the careers. You don't make one album. You make 25 albums. They're just behind your back always."



Hale

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Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D

Friday		7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:25	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:25	7:25	
Mon through Thurs		7:25	

Cast: Jeremy Renner, Gemma Arterton, Famke Janssen
Genre: Adventure • Rated R

Synopsis

Jeremy Renner and Gemma Arterton reimagine Hansel and Gretel grown-up as bounty hunters in this Paramount Pictures production. Will Ferrell's Gary Sanchez Prods. produces, with Dead Snow's Tommy Wirkola directing from a script by D.W. Harper. Famke Janssen co-stars.



Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters 2D

Friday	4:25	
Saturday	4:25	
Sunday	4:25	
Mon through Thurs	4:25	

Cast: Jeremy Renner, Gemma Arterton, Famke Janssen
Genre: Adventure • Rated R



Lincoln

Friday	4:30	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:00	4:30	7:30
Sunday	1:00	4:30	7:30
Mon through Thurs	4:30	7:30	

Cast: Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field, David Strathairn
Genre: Drama • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Steven Spielberg helms his long-in-the-making biopic of Abraham Lincoln for DreamWorks and Touchstone Pictures. Daniel Day-Lewis portrays the former head of state in the Tony Kushner-penned adaptation of Doris Kearns Goodwin's book, Team of Rivals, which chronicles the President's time in office between 1861 and 1865 as he dealt with personal demons and politics during the Civil War.



The Last Stand

Friday	4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Mon through Thurs	4:05	7:05	

Cast: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Forest Whitaker
Genre: Action • Rated R

Synopsis

Arnold Schwarzenegger stars as Sheriff Owens, a disgraced lawman who fled the LAPD to lord over the sleepy border town of Sommerton Junction, which becomes the only thing in the way of an escaped head of a drug cartel's path to freedom in Lionsgate's The Last Stand. I Saw the Devil's Kim Jee-woon directs from a script by Andrew Knauer and Jeffrey Nachmanoff.



Mama

Friday	4:30	7:30	9:45
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Mon through Thurs	4:30	7:30	

Cast: Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, Jessica Chastain
Genre: Horror • Rated PG 13



Broken City

Friday	4:10	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Mon through Thurs	4:10	7:10	

Cast: Mark Wahlberg, Russell Crowe, Catherine Zeta-jones
Genre: Drama • Rated R



Gangsters Squad

Friday	4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Mon through Thurs	4:15	7:15	

Cast: Sean Penn, Ryan Gosling, Josh Brolin
Genre: Crime • Rated R



Les Misérables

Friday	4:20	7:50
Saturday	12:55	4:20
Sunday	12:55	4:20
Mon through Thurs	4:20	7:50

Cast: Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway
Genre: Musical • Rated PG 13

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Teacher is shocked to learn about student's new career

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am an adjunct teacher in a small college in the Midwest. For the most part, my students are great, but one breaks my heart. I admire him because he has overcome some incredible obstacles. Last year, he lost a good job and had to drop out for a time. He's back now, and when I asked about his new job, he said he runs a strip club.



Dear Abby

At first, I thought he was kidding, but he assured me he manages more than 50 ladies who, at the end of their shift, leave with their lives and their dignity. He doesn't strike me as a common street pimp and I realize he took this job to survive. I'd like to approach him outside the classroom and offer to help not just him, but his employees. I don't want to come across as a do-gooder, but I don't think this is a great career.

I know this letter may make for some funny water cooler conversations, but the truth is people who get sucked into the vice trade have a hard time getting out and often come to a bad end. Do I care about my students too much, or am I being judgmental?

WANTS TO HELP IN ILLINOIS

DEAR WANTS: I think it's a little of both. You are well-meaning, but may have jumped to some incorrect conclusions. Managers of adult entertainment clubs are not "pimps"; they are club managers. Further, just as not all prostitutes are exotic dancers, not all exotic dancers are prostitutes. Many are single women working to support themselves and their children; others may be students trying to pay for their educations.

Before trying to "rescue" any of them, visit the club and see firsthand what is—and is NOT—going on there. If there are underage girls being forced to work there, report it to the police. If not, recognize that they are adults and able to make their own career choices. While I admire your good heart, the individuals you're worried about may not need your assistance.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I want to ask your opinion about something. I work at a donut shop inside a college campus. I have a tip jar, and many customers are generous and share their change with me.

My problem is other people who feel entitled to the money in my tip jar. There have been instances when some of them realized they were a few cents short, so they stuck their hands in my tip jar and fished out the coins they wanted. It is not out of ignorance! The jar is clearly labeled "Tips—Thank you." If I tell them they can't take the money, they get angry. One lady screamed at me, saying I was "selfish," and the money in the jar shouldn't be just for me!

What do you think, Abby? Am I too upset over a few cents? Or am I right to feel robbed and stand up for myself when people do this?

DOING MY JOB ON CAMPUS

DEAR DOING MY JOB: I don't blame you for feeling robbed. Your tips ARE meant just for you, and you have earned every penny your customers left in recognition of your good service. What these people are doing is petty theft. Some establishments avoid this problem by leaving a small container of pennies on the counter. Please suggest it to your boss.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

ABC: Barbara Walters is out of the hospital

LOS ANGELES (AP)—ABC says Barbara Walters is out of the hospital and recovering from chicken pox at home.

ABC said Tuesday that the 83-year-old host on "The View" is resting comfortably and "getting stronger." There was no indication of when she might return to work.

Walters was hospitalized after



Walters

falling and cutting her head at a pre-inaugural party in Washington on Jan. 19. The news veteran later was diagnosed with chicken pox, which typically hits people when they are children.

The disease can be serious in older people because of the possibility of complications like pneumonia.

Ke\$ha to debut MTV reality series in April

NEW YORK (AP)—"Jersey Shore" might have ended, but another partygoer is lending her wild life to MTV: Ke\$ha.

MTV announced late Tuesday that the pop singer will debut a documentary series, "Ke\$ha: My Crazy Beautiful Life," in April.

The show highlights Ke\$ha's life over the last two years, including recording music and traveling. MTV says the footage was shot by

the singer's brother, Lagan Sebert.

The 25-year-old performer says in a statement that she's "revealing a more complete picture of what my life is really like" in the series. She says her life is "not all glamorous, but it's all real."

Ke\$ha has released a number of Top 10 hits since she debuted in 2009, including pop smashes like "TiK ToK," "We R Who We R" and "Die Young."

Judd announces separation from Franchitti

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ashley Judd and Dario Franchitti are separating after 11 years of marriage.

Judd's spokeswoman confirmed a Tuesday report from People magazine that the 44-year-old actress and 39-year-old Scottish race car driver are ending their marriage.

The star of such films as "Double Jeopardy" and "Kiss the Girls" says in a statement that the pair will "al-

ways be family" and will continue to cherish their relationship based on love, integrity and respect.

Last year, Judd starred in the ABC series "Missing" and attended the Democratic National Convention as a Tennessee delegate.

Franchitti has won the Indianapolis 500 race three times.

The couple wed in a private ceremony in Scotland in 2001.



In this Sept. 23, 2012 file photo, actress Ashley Judd, right, and her husband, Dario Franchitti, arrives at the 64th Primetime Emmy Awards at the Nokia Theatre, in Los Angeles.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Sigourney Weaver, David Hyde Pierce Broadway-bound

NEW YORK (AP)—Sigourney Weaver and David Hyde Pierce will reprise their onstage sibling rivalry when they take Christopher Durang's "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike" to Broadway. Producers said Tuesday that the play, which takes characters and themes from Chekhov and sets them in present day Pennsylvania, will make the leap from Lincoln Center's Mitzi E. Newhouse Theatre to Broadway's Golden Theatre for 17 weeks starting March 5. Weaver, whose Broadway credits include "Hurlyburly" in 1984, is working on the USA series "Political Animals." Her notable film credits include "Alien," "Avatar," "Working Girl" and "Ghostbusters." Four-time Emmy Award-winner Pierce has spent a lot of time on stage since the end

of his sitcom "Frasier," including Broadway stints in "Spamalot," "Curtains," "Accent on Youth" and "La Bete."

Man detained by Taye Diggs charged with burglary

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A man who was detained by Taye Diggs after the actor found him at his home has pleaded not guilty to a felony burglary charge. Superior Court spokeswoman Patricia Kelly says Hassan Omar Juma entered the plea Tuesday afternoon and will return to court Feb. 8. He faces up to six years in prison if convicted. Diggs detained the 20-year-old after he and his wife said they found him in their garage Sunday night. The "Private Practice" star was returning from the Screen Actors Guild Awards, where he was a presenter. Juma was charged Tuesday with first-



Jennifer Lawrence arrives at the 19th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on Sunday, Jan. 27, 2013.

Dior: Lawrence dress had no malfunction

LOS ANGELES (AP)—That was no wardrobe malfunction—that was couture.

When Jennifer Lawrence ascended the stairs to accept her SAG Award Sunday night, a bit of skin showed through the skirt of her gown, leading to some speculation that it had ripped.

Dior Couture told The Associated Press that wasn't so.

The design house said Lawrence's gown was designed by Raf Simons "with different levels of tulle and satin." That was what viewers saw on television when she lifted her gown to walk upstairs.

degree felony residential burglary. He's jailed in lieu of \$50,000 bail. Police say Diggs caught Juma after chasing him. Neither man was hurt in the incident.

Oscar hits the road to visit more than 10 cities

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Oscar is going on a road trip. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences says one of the golden statuettes that are handed out at the Academy Awards will visit at least 10 cities as part of Oscar's first national tour. Beginning Monday in New York City, the golden guy's journey will be chronicled online. Fans can follow the Oscar statue's progress and even make suggestions for stops along the way. The statuette will make appearances in Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Mo., Houston, Dallas and Phoenix before arriving

in Hollywood for the Academy Awards on Feb. 24. Fans in those cities will have a chance to pose for photos with the Oscar trophy.

Hilary Mantel wins 2012 Costa Book of the Year

LONDON (AP)—Two-time Booker Prize winner Hilary Mantel has snagged the top honor at the Costa Book Awards for her novel "Bring Up the Bodies." The British writer's blood-soaked Tudor saga, which won the Booker last year, defeated four other titles shortlisted for the 25,000 pound (\$39,400) prize for 2012's book of the year. Accepting her prize at a London ceremony on Tuesday, Mantel alluded to her recent successes by saying she was "not going to apologize" for winning another award. "I'm happy and I shall make it my business to try to write more books that will be worth more prizes," she said.

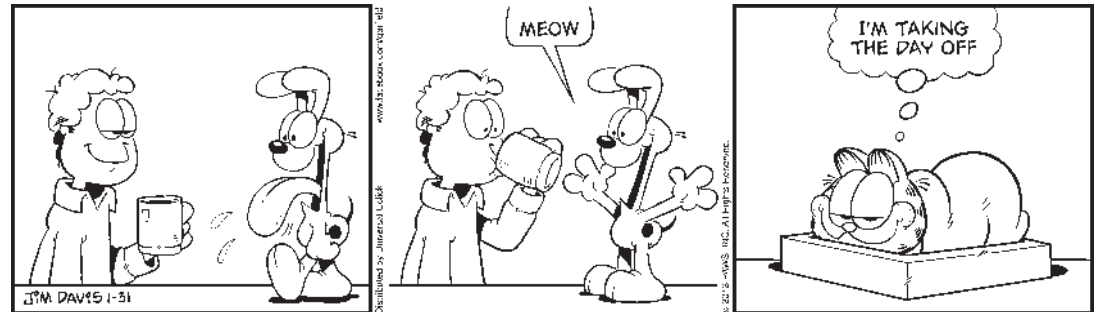
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

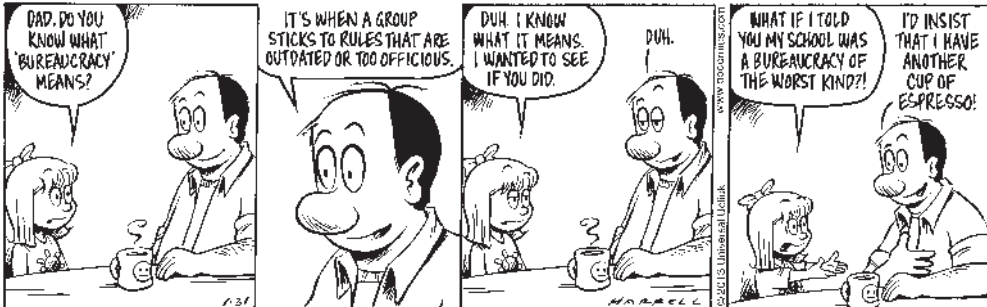


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Throat clearer

5 Pinball boo-boo

9 Moment

12 Transcending (Pref.)

13 Distant

14 Weep

15 Key with a left-pointing arrow

17 Khan title

18 Them

19 Chef's garb

21 Smallest st.

22 Decorator's theme

24 Bankrolls

27 Party bowlful

28 Donated

31 Mess up

32 Illustrations

33 Spy novel org.

34 Boyfriend

36 Part of TGIF

37 Bartlett or Bosc

DOWN

1 Early pulpit

2 Warmth

3 Leave a good impression?

4 Creators

5 Reveille's opposite

6 "—" picture paints a thousand words, ..."

7 Fond du —, Wis.

8 Halloween candy

9 Capone's nickname

10 Therefore

11 Greenish-blue

16 Lanka preceder

20 Glutton

22 Merri-ment

23 Makes up one's mind

24 Charlotte's creation

25 Exist

26 Hot-rodders' contest

27 Raised platform

29 By way of

30 Listener

35 Italian article

37 Column

39 Horrible

40 Bound

41 Faction

42 Helen's place

44 Diane or Nathan

45 Dermatology subject

46 Peruse

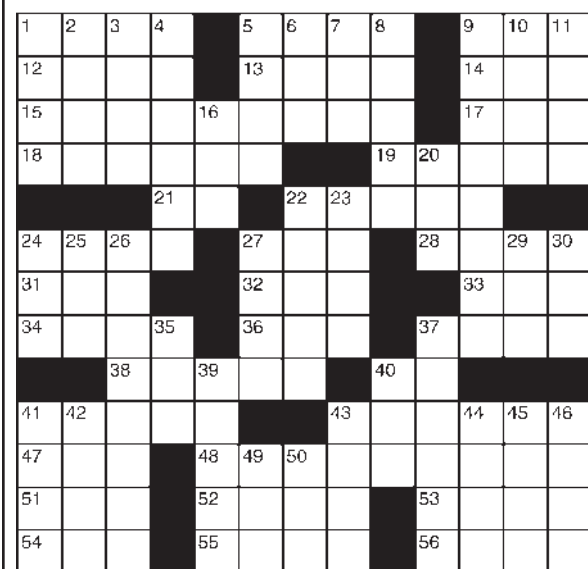
49 Rage

50 Geneticist's letters

Solution time: 25 mins.

LEFT	GEE	ISLE
AXLE	ROD	SPAR
SPANKING	OAKS	
TOKENS	ATTLEE	
TIS	ROOD	
WAS	TOW	EPICS
HIPS	MOB	ENDO
ORATE	WAR	GET
WAKE	ROT	
CANNES	ROADIE	
ACID	SPAMMING	
RANI	ERG	EDDO
SIGN	NEE	SOYS

Yesterday's answer 1-31



STUMPED?

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mario Williams, 28; Justin Timberlake, 32; Kerry Washington, 36; Portia de Rossi, 40.

Happy Birthday: Take a broader look at the possibilities that exist and you will find a challenge that suits you mentally, physically or financially and satisfies your desire to accomplish something great. A sense of what works will help you make wise choices and allow you to reinvent or recycle past conquests. A little force will go a long way. Your numbers are 3, 10, 14, 21, 28, 32, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let erratic behavior cloud your vision or send you spinning in the wrong direction. Look at what transpires and size up your situation based on what you can win or lose in the process. Change is necessary but it has to be positive. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let compliments fool you into believing you have everything under control. Someone is trying to manipulate the situation or get something from you. Rethink everyone's motives, including your own, before you proceed. Love is in the stars. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You've got plenty of choices. Use your intelligence and separate your emotions from the equation and you will make a suitable decision that will bring you good fortune and greater opportunity. Speak concisely and from the heart. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Go out and have fun with friends. Attend a reunion or contact someone you haven't seen for a long time. Interacting with people from your

past will help you see your personal situation clearly, giving you ideas as to what you should do next. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Expand your interests and your friendships. Call in favors and travel to unfamiliar places that are sure to inspire you to follow through with your goals. Avoid anyone putting demands on you. You need a little time to develop your plans. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can get a lot done, but you must also put time aside for love and your favorite pastimes. All work and no play will lead to someone's loss of interest in you. Nurture the relationships that are dear to you. Put love first. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Make plans to get out and have some fun. Networking functions will lead to greater prosperity. Your intelligent way of expressing your plans for the future will interest someone entrepreneurial. An unexpected change will end up being beneficial. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't waste time trying to prove a point to someone who is stubborn. You are best to focus on your interests or creative projects. Avoid overdoing it in any way. Keep your money in a safe place and your assets well protected. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll have a good view of the possibilities that exist through a friendship or a change in location. Strive to contribute and you will earn a secure position. Personal changes will turn out well. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Pressure can be expected from an unusual source. Prepare to make your point clear, but be willing to listen. Combining what you have with what's being offered will be what leads to your success. ★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You are the one everybody is watching. You are a trendsetter and do what you can to change the way people think or do things. Invest in yourself, your surroundings and your lifestyle. A reward is within reach. ★★★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Too much information is being kept a secret. You either have to share or avoid moving in a direction that can be detrimental to your future goals. Not everyone will be willing to give you the benefit of the doubt. Play fair. ★★★★★

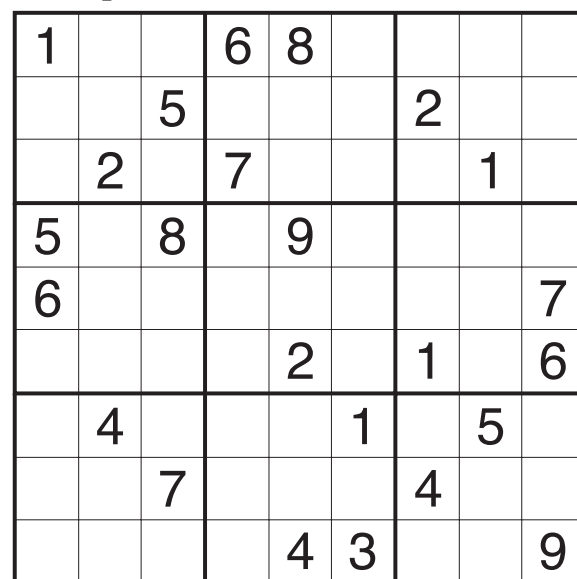
Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, challenging, innovative and progressive. You are a leader.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



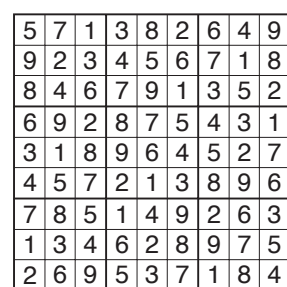
Difficulty Level ★★★

1/31

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

1/30

WONDERWORD

By DAVID
QUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CHIMING BELLS

Solution: 8 letters



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Alloy, Arts, Bars, Breeze, Bronze, Button, Cherry, Chime, Chord, Coated, Code, Collect, Copper, Crafted, Custom, Dinner, Door, Feathers, Garden, Gift, Glass, Goal, Handmade, Home, House, Hung, Last, Late, Lead, Loud, Melody, Mobile, Note, Ornament, Patio, Pipe, Pitch, Race, Rain, Resin, Rust, Sequence, Size, Spring, String, Tail, Toll, Toys, Tubes, Tuned, Visitor, Wind, Wire, Wood, Year

Yesterday's Answer: Nutrients

THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD VOLUME 31: You'll find the puzzle's solution in the puzzle's solution. To solve, find the 35 words and circle their letters. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword. © 2013 Universal Uclick. www.wonderword.com. Join us on Facebook.

CLASSIFIED ADS



WHATZIT Solution: Close-knit community

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS


Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS


Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



WHATZIT? © 2013 www.whatzit.com
Printed by Universal Color

Find today's solution in classified section

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 – HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

High school diploma with (5) years minimum work related experience. Able to operate several types of heavy equipment including but not limited to Backhoe/Loader, Road Grader, Tractor/Trailer Combo, Bulldozer, Hydraulic Crane. Load weights and check them against lifting capacities to prevent overload. Move levers, depress foot pedals, or turn dials to operate cranes, or other moving equipment for lifting, moving, or placing loads. Learn and follow safety regulations. Take actions to avoid potential hazards or obstructions, such as utility lines, other equipment, other workers, or falling objects. Clean, lubricate and inspect mechanisms or accessories such as cables, pulleys, or grappling devices to prevent malfunctions or damage. Perform routine maintenance of equipment. Must have knowledge in troubleshooting and able to diagnose problem or malfunction and make repairs as necessary.

Interested qualified applicants can submit their resume and latest police clearance via e-mail to saipan@aicconstruction.com or mail to AIC Marianas, Inc., PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950. Closing Date: February 1, 2013

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

PARTS SALES PERSON (2)

- Minimum of 5 years experience
- Expertise in commercial vehicle and heavy equipment parts

APPLY IN PERSON & BRING RESUME
No phone call please.

MARIANAS EXCHANGE, INC.
Saipan Plaza Building
Middle Road, Gualo Rai

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

(02) REGISTERED NURSE

- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN License
- At least two to five years experience
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- English Language skills- Proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Must be flexible in time schedule

Please submit application or resume to Health Professional Corporation dba Saipan Health Clinic at Chalan Kiya, Saipan or call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2901 ext. 124 for more information.

MARFEGA TRADING CO., INC.
P.O. Box 502356 CK. Saipan, MP 96950
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: January 31, 2013 Closing Date: February 21, 2013

HR/ADMIN SPECIALIST

The position is primarily responsible and accountable for the formulation, enhancement and revision of company policies and procedures, including management and administration of all facets of Human Resources and Admin. Department including but not limited to the following areas:

- Recruitment & Placement of Personnel within and across all levels in the Organization
- Personnel Information System
- Employee's Welfare Benefits
- Training & Development
- Employee/Labor relations including termination
- Events Management & Coordination
- Assets Management
- Acquisition and Renewal of business permits/licenses including processing of employment permits.

REQUIREMENTS/QUALIFICATIONS:

- Graduate of Behavioral Science (BS Psychology/BS Management or its equivalent)
- With at least five (5) years hands on experience in all facets of HR and Admin at least in a Supervisory Capacity
- Familiar with Labor laws (both local and provisions of Federal laws pertaining to Employment)

Applicants must be fully qualified, with valid Police & Health Clearance, clean driver's record, willing to work flexible hours, multi tasking & assigned in other locations of the company. Salary is commensurate on the qualifications. For inquiry or interview please contact Ms. Aileen Arnold – Soriano at 288-0373

Fax your resume at (670) 288-0389 or email at islandereprocess@yahoo.com

EMPLOYMENT

(2) Jewelry Appraiser – Must have 4-5 years experience in jewelry appraisal, honest and trustworthy. Must be familiar with Microsoft word, excel and Peachtree. Applicants must mail resume with valid identifications, police clearance and previous employment certifications to PLATINUM INC. PMB 326 PPP BOX 10000, Saipan, MP 96950

1-Accountant Bookkeeper/Computer Operator-\$5.55 w/ 6 yrs exp & knowledge in Acctng & Taxes. Japanese Foods import/export docs related. Mail resume to SPE Saipan Box 502696 Saipan MP 96950

1 – Caregiver. Salary \$5.55 per hour. 2 years experience. Call Patricia Worley at 670-433-0234.

1 Sales Supervisor: \$5.55/hr. 3 years experience as a sales supervisor at a retail store is required. Email resume to jnk@hanmisaipan.com.

HOUSE FOR RENT

4 Bedroom, 2 Storey Bldg with 2 bathroom & 1 small office space. Located in Papago

Please call Ellen Delos Santos at 285-2847
Serious Callers Only

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School

Is requesting applicants for:

Accountant/Business Manager (1)

- Minimum 5 years experience in Seventh-day Adventist School;
- Minimum 5 years experience in a managerial capacity;
- Bachelor's degree in accounting;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Knowledge in Quickbooks accounting software preferred;
- Minimum 2 years work experience in a Christian school;

Elementary Teacher (1)

- Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education required;
- NAD denominational degree preferred;
- Must be qualified to teach elementary English;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;
- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school

Pre-School Teachers (3)

- Bachelor's degree required;
- Two years of early childhood teaching experience required;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;
- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school;

Pre-School Assistant Teacher

- Minimum 2 years of college required;
- Two years of early childhood classroom teaching experience required;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;

Send resumes to:
Saipan SDA School Principal
P.O. Box 501063 Saipan, MP 96950

WANTED TO BUY

We buying any broken game consoles/parts. Also, selling good condition used game consoles/parts. Please call 287-6686.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Chalan Kiya, 3 bdrm-2 bath duplex. Section 8 accepted. \$700 negotiable. No deposit Call Alex 285-7612

2 Bedroom Apartment for Rent. For \$200.00 / month. Koblerville, please call 288-0728.

2BRAPT for Rent. Walking distance to MHS. Behind Calvo's Nursery, off Texas Rd. Furnished w/AC & ceiling fans. 24hr CUC & rain water, private washer/dryer. \$450p/m, water incl. Call Ed at 788-6268/323-0409.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$450-\$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. \$600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. \$550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nighttime security. \$450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 1-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$250/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

Saipan Triple Star Recycling Inc.

Job Vacancy Announcement

1 – General Manager. Salary \$5.55 p/h. 10 years working experience. Chinese speaking preferred. Knowledge in managing more than 20 employees. Familiar with recycling procedures a plus.

2 – Heavy Equipment Maintenance. Salary \$5.55 p/h. 10 years working experience. Knowledge in repair, diagnose and maintain all heavy equipments.

7 – Assistant Manager. Salary \$5.55 p/h. 5 years experience required. Must fulfill job assignment from Managers.

Interested applicants please send resume to
P.O. Box 503616, Saipan, MP 96950

BLUE SKY INT'L SAIPAN CORP.
Job Vacancy Announcement**(1) SALES MANAGER**
(4) SALES & MARKETING ASSOCIATES

At least High School Graduate, 3 yrs. experience, must have a valid Driver's License, No criminal background, computer literate, and bilingual. Please submit your latest resume at our Garapan Office, Saipan. Across Johnny's Bar or email your resume at hancacoluisa2010@126.com

KKUN USA CORP.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**(1) WEB DESIGNER**

Using PSD, AI, MAC program
Design Web site and Editing.
Min. of 2 yrs experience, provide own car.

Send resume to sylvianmi@gmail.com

EWGE Corporation
Job vacancy announcement**Sales Clerk -2 positions**
5 years experience**Requirements:**

- High school graduate or GED equivalent
- Neat in appearance and ability to communicate well with customers (excellent salesmanship qualities a must)
- self motivated - police and medical clearance required at interview
- flexible work hours
- clean background check (no ior criminal convictions) must be reliable, honest and trustworthy
- the ability to run the entire operation within two weeks of starting
- excellent computer skills proficient in Word and Excel
- required to clean and mop the floor of the shop daily also clean exterior windows
- 18 years or older with transportation
- 5.55 per hr

For more information please call 235-6988

LEAVING ISLAND
SALE

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 2, 2013
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Many items for sale.

In Chalan Kiya at
Calvary Baptist Church

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation****JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

JVA No. 13-002

Opening Date: Friday, January 18, 2013
Closing Date: Friday, February 01, 2013

UTILITY METER SPECIALIST

Duties: Under the overall supervision of the Chief Financial Officer or his/her designee. Provides metering staff direction to include assigning and monitoring tasks as required. Performs journey level operations, installations and/or repairs and investigations in assigned service area. Inspects equipment and determines if any repairs are needed. Performs preventative maintenance in assigned service areas. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Prepares reports and documentation pertaining to field work. Performs or assists in meter testing; replaces damage meters with new meters. Performs or assists in disconnections and reconnections of service; disconnects tampered accounts. Performs verifications to ensure meters are functioning properly. Delivers delinquency notices to customers with no addresses. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION: Chief Financial Officer Division, SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY: \$17,282.00 to \$25,231.00 per year; un-graded, un-classified.

POSITIONS: Two (2).

CONTRACT: Not Contracted

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma, or G.E.D., or Adult School Diploma through the Adult Basic Education Program "and" four years of meter and/or trades work in water. **Examples of desired experience:** Experience in water trades duties operating reservoirs and distribution valves; Performing leak detection; Responding to customer complaints; Installing, maintaining and repairing water lines; Installing and/or replacing water meters; Performing disconnects and reconnects. **Knowledge of:** Meters; Customer service techniques; Reading maps; Operating Vehicles; Installing and replacing meters; Disconnecting and reconnecting meters; Identifying illegal connections; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. **Skill in:** Preparing daily reports; Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must have a U.S. or CNMI driver's license. Pre-employment drug testing required. Applicants may be tested.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

CUC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

Job Vacancy Announcement**Marketing Representative / Delivery Man (2 positions) \$5.55/hour****Qualification Requirements:**

*SOC ONet 41-4011.00 *Must have a 2 college degree with at least 2 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a high school diploma with possessing minimum 5 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry *Holding a valid CNMI driver's license *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Marketing Assistant Manager (1 position) \$6.50/hour**Qualification Requirements:**

*SOC ONet 11-2021.00 *Must have a 4-college degree with at least 4 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a 2-year college degree with at least 8 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry *Holding a valid CNMI driver's license *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Office Adm/Operations Manager (1 position) \$7.00/hour**Qualification Requirements:**

*SOC synthesized ONet 11-1021.00 & 11-3011.00 *Must have a 4-college degree with at least 4 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a high-school diploma with possessing minimum 10 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry *Holding a valid CNMI driver's license *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Purchasing Administrative Assistant (2 positions) \$6.50/hour**Qualification Requirements:**

*SOC ONet 11-3061.00 *Must have a 4-college degree with at least 2 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a 2-year college degree with at least 6 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry *Well knowledge in Chinese merchandise and export government regulations and processing *Fluent in Chinese speaking, listening, reading and writing *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours *Willing to travel frequently *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Interested applicants please submit a resume with supporting documents to APEX Corporation, Contact Person: Michael Zhang or Peter Xu, Fax number: (670) 288-3389 before 5:00 P.M., February 4, 2013. Thank you.

S P O R T S

A-Rod implicated in PED use again as MLB probes



N E W
Y O R K
(AP)—Alex

Rodriguez was ensnared in a doping investigation once again Tuesday when an alternative weekly newspaper reported baseball's highest-paid star was among a half-dozen players listed in records of a Florida clinic the paper said sold performance-enhancing drugs.

The Miami New Times said the three-time AL MVP bought human growth hormone and other performance-enhancing substances during 2009-12 from Biogenesis of America LLC, a now-closed anti-aging clinic in Coral Gables, Fla., near Rodriguez's offseason home.

The new public relations firm for the New York Yankees third baseman issued a statement denying the allegations.

The newspaper said it obtained records detailing purchases by Rodriguez, 2012 All-Star game MVP Melky Cabrera, 2005 AL Cy Young Award winner Bartolo Colon and 2011 AL championship series MVP Nelson Cruz of Texas.

Cabrera left San Francisco after the season to sign with Toronto, while Oakland resigned Colon.

Other baseball players the newspaper said appeared in the records include Washington pitcher Gio Gonzalez, who finished third in last year's NL Cy Young Award voting, and San Diego catcher Yasmani Grandal.

Biogenesis, which the New Times said was run by Anthony Bosch, was located in a beige, nondescript office park. The former clinic is no longer listed as a business in its directory.

"There was a flier put out by the building management a couple weeks ago. It was put on all the doors and windows of all the offices," said Brad Nickel, who works in a group cruise planning company on the floor above where the clinic was located. "It just said this guy's not really a doctor, he doesn't belong here, he's no longer allowed here, call the police or the building management if you see him."

David Sierra, who works in his aunt's real estate office in the same building, kept a picture of the flier on his iPhone. He recognized the doctor in the picture from passing him in the hallway.

Sierra said while he never recognized any of the clients at the clinic, "there were always really nice cars in front - I'm not talking just Mercedes. Range Rovers, Bentleys."

The New Times posted copies of what it said were Bosch's handwritten records, obtained through a former Biogenesis employee it did not identify.

Bosch's lawyer, Susy Rib-



AP

Alex Rodriguez, seen in this undated file photo, according a Miami New Times's report was among a half-dozen players listed in records of a Florida clinic the paper said sold performance-enhancing drugs.

ero-Ayala, said in a statement the New Times report "is filled with inaccuracies, innuendo and misstatements of fact."

"Mr. Bosch vehemently denies the assertions that MLB players such as Alex Rodriguez and Gio Gonzalez were treated by or associated with him," she said.

Rodriguez appears 16 times in the documents New Times received, the paper said, either as "Alex Rodriguez," "Alex Rod" or the nickname "Cacique," a pre-Columbian Caribbean chief.

Rodriguez admitted four years ago that he used PEDs from 2001-03. Cabrera, Colon and Grandal were suspended for 50 games each last year by MLB following tests for elevated testosterone. Responding to the testosterone use, MLB and the players' union said Jan. 10 they were authorizing the World Anti-Doping Agency laboratory outside Montreal to store each major leaguer's baseline testosterone/epitestosterone (T/E) ratio in order to detect abnormalities.

"We are always extremely disappointed to learn of potential links between players and the use of performance-enhancing substances," MLB said in a statement. "Only law enforcement officials have the capacity to reach those outside the game who are involved in the distribution of illegal performance-enhancing drugs. ... We are in the midst of an active investigation and are gathering and reviewing information."

A baseball official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to make public statements, said Monday that MLB did not have

any documentation regarding the allegations. If MLB does obtain evidence, the players could be subject to discipline. First offenses result in a 50-game suspension and second infractions in 100-game penalties. A third violation results in a lifetime ban.

Rodriguez is sidelined for at least the first half of the season after hip surgery Jan. 16. A 50-game suspension would cost him \$7.65 million of his \$28 million salary.

"The news report about a purported relationship between Alex Rodriguez and Anthony Bosch are not true," Rodriguez said in a statement issued by a publicist. "He was not Mr. Bosch's patient, he was never treated by him and he was never advised by him. The purported documents referenced in the story - at least as they relate to Alex Rodriguez - are not legitimate."

Jay Reisinger, a lawyer who has represented Rodriguez in recent years, said the three-time AL MVP had retained Roy Black, an attorney from Rodriguez's hometown of Miami. Black's clients have included Rush Limbaugh and William Kennedy Smith.

Bosch did not return a phone message seeking comment.

MLB hopes to gain the cooperation of Bosch and others connected with the clinic, another baseball official said, also on condition of anonymity because no public statements on the matter were authorized. In order to successfully discipline players based on the records, witnesses would be needed to authenticate them, the official said.

Players could be asked to

appear before MLB for interviews, but the official said MLB would be reluctant to request interviews before it has more evidence.

Rodriguez spent years denying he used PEDs before Sports Illustrated reported in February 2009 that he tested positive for two steroids in MLB's anonymous survey while with the Texas Rangers in 2003. Two days later, he admitted in an ESPN interview that he used PEDs over a three-year period. He has denied using PEDs after 2003.

If the new allegations were true, the Yankees would face high hurdles to get out of the final five years and \$114 million of Rodriguez's record \$275 million, 10-year contract. Because management and the players' union have a joint drug agreement, an arbitrator could determine that any action taken by the team amounted to multiple punishments for the same offense.

But if Rodriguez were to end his career because of the injury, about 85 percent of the money owed by the Yankees would be covered by insurance, one of the baseball officials said.

The Yankees said "this matter is now in the hands of the commissioner's office" and said they will not comment further until MLB's investigation ends.

Gonzalez, 21-8 for the Washington Nationals last season, posted on his Twitter feed: "I've never used performance enhancing drugs of any kind and I never will, I've never met or spoken with tony Bosch or used any substance provided by him. anything said to the contrary is a lie."

Ray Lewis denies report linking him to PED



Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis speaks at an NFL Super Bowl XLVII football news conference on Monday, Jan. 28, 2013, in New Orleans. The Ravens face the San Francisco 49ers in Super Bowl XLVII on Sunday, Feb. 3.



NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Of all the topics Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis wanted to talk about at Super Bowl media day, deer-antler spray probably was not on the list.

He declined to directly address in any detail Tuesday questions about a Sports Illustrated report that he sought help from a company that makes the unorthodox product to speed up his recovery from a torn right triceps. Lewis was the NFL's leading tackler in the playoffs after missing 10 regular-season games with the injury.

The company, Sports With Alternatives To Steroids (SWATS), says its deer-antler substance contains a banned performance-enhancer connected to human growth hormone.

The 37-year-old Lewis, who has announced he will retire after playing against the San Francisco 49ers in Sunday's Super Bowl, dismissed the report as "stupidity."

Sport Illustrated reported that SWATS owner Mitch Ross recorded a call with Lewis hours after the player hurt his arm in an October game against Dallas. According to the report, Lewis asked Ross to send him deer-antler spray and pills, along with other products made by the company.

The magazine also said that when it spoke to Lewis for its story, he acknowledged asking Ross for "some more of the regular stuff" on the night of the injury and that he has been associated with the company "for a couple years through Hue Jackson."

Jackson is a former Ravens quarterbacks coach - and later head coach of the Oakland Raiders. Two years ago he stopped endorsing SWATS because his ties to the company violated NFL rules.

"That was a 2-year-old story that you want me to refresh ... so I won't even speak about it," Lewis said Tuesday. "Because I've been in this business 17 years, and nobody has ever got up with me every morning and trained with me. Every test I've ever took in the NFL - there's

never been a question of if I ever even thought about using anything. So to even entertain stupidity like that. ..."

The NFL didn't immediately respond to a request for comment, and NFL Players Association spokesman George Atallah declined comment.

"The team knew about this report. Ray denies taking anything and has always passed tests," Ravens spokesman Kevin Byrne said.

Baltimore coach John Harbaugh said he found out about the SI story during the team's bus ride to the Superdome for media day.

"I have not talked to Ray about that personally," Harbaugh said. "What I do know about that is Ray has worked incredibly and extremely hard to get back, so I hate to see anything diminish the work ethic that he's put in to get to where he is right now. And my understanding is Ray has passed every random, you know, substance test that he's taken throughout the course of his whole career. So there's never been a test that's shown up anything along those lines."

All in all, the topic only added to what already was a week filled with plot lines connected to Lewis.

There is the largely rehabilitated image of a man who pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice in connection with a double murder after a Super Bowl party at an Atlanta nightclub in 2000. There is the impending retirement, a self-titled "last ride" for a player widely considered one of the top defenders in NFL history and the Super Bowl MVP in 2001.

And there is his recovery from what was originally thought to be a season-ending injury.

"When I tore my tricep, the doctor looked at me after I went in the office and she told me that I was out for the year. And I said, 'Doc, are you sure?' I said, 'Nah.' I said, 'Doc, there's no way I'm going to be out for the year with just a torn tricep,' " Lewis said with a laugh Tuesday. "I said, 'I've been through way worse.' She was like, 'Ray, nobody's ever come back from this.' I said, 'Well, nobody's ever been Ray Lewis, either.' "

Randy Moss: From star to afterthought with 49ers

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Randy Moss strolled to the podium on Super Bowl media day—his 49ers hat tilted slightly to the left, his sleeves rolled up high to reveal a cross tattooed on one arm, a large "R" tattooed on the other.

He carried himself very much like the star he once was.

"I don't know how many questions I'm gonna give you," he barked to reporters, before breaking into a smile. "So go ahead."

Then, for the next hour or so, he was the center of attention—a role he seemed perfectly suited for, even though he kept saying over and over that he just wants to be treated like anyone else.

Moss proclaimed himself "the greatest receiver ever to play this game." He urged all the coaches out there to listen to their players every now and then.

"I'm me," Moss declared. "I just do it my way. That's just how I feel. I don't try to be better than the next man, or break any laws or any rules. Nothing like that. But what do I believe in? I believe in myself. That's just the way I've always done it."

"I know," he quickly added, "there's some people out there who like me, and I know there's a lot of people out there who don't. For what reason, I don't know and don't really care."

Moss was once the NFL's most dominant receiver, but those days are long past. He's 35 now, clearly on the downside of a career that actually seemed over a year ago. After bouncing around to three different teams in 2010, he didn't play at all last season. But, he wasn't ready to walk away from the sport just yet—and San Francisco gave him a chance to come back for another shot at the ring.

There was one big caveat: Moss would no longer be the center of the offense.

The 49ers had plenty of others—from receiver Michael Crabtree to tight end Vernon Davis to running back Frank Gore. Now that Colin Kaepernick has taken over at quarterback, it's easy to forget that No. 84 is even on the field. Sure, Moss is savoring the 49ers run to the Super Bowl, where they'll face the Baltimore Ravens on Sunday, but he's still struggling to get his arms around the idea of being an afterthought on the field.

"I've always considered myself a playmaker," he said. "Blocking? Yeah, I understand that's part of the game. Me going out to be decoy? Yeah, I know that's part of the game. But for me not to be

out here making plays is something I just don't understand."

Then, he remembered why he's here. "If that's going to win me a ring," Moss said, "yeah, I accept that."

He came oh-so-close during the 2007 season, teaming with Tom Brady to lead New England to an unbeaten regular season and two more wins in the playoffs. Then, in the game that really mattered, the high-powered Patriots were shut down in the Super Bowl by the New York Giants, who rallied for a stunning 17-14 upset after David Tyree—not Moss—made a catch that left everyone in awe.

It's a game Moss has never bothered to watch on video. It's a game that sticks with him to this day—and probably will forever, even if the 49ers win on Sunday.

"There's just something about '07, being undefeated going into a Super Bowl and losing it like that," he said. "I'll never forget that moment because it's not fun when you're sweating and you have confetti dropping down and sticking to your face and knowing that you're not on the winning side of the confetti."

Surely, someone asked, winning this time would ease the pain from five seasons ago.

Not so, Moss replied.

"If I win this one, that means I could have had two," he said. "That's something I'll never forget."

Moss' last big season came with the Patriots in 2009, when he had 83 receptions for 1,264 yards and 13 touchdowns. The following year was a mess, largely of his own making.

His days in New England were numbered before the season opener when Moss complained about not getting a contract extension and said he didn't feel wanted. After week four, he was traded back to Minnesota, his original team, but that didn't last, either. Moss griped about then-coach Brad Childress and was waived, finishing out the dismal, miserable campaign in Tennessee.

Not surprisingly, no one jumped at the chance to offer Moss a job in 2011.

It looked as though retirement had arrived, whether he wanted it or not.

Moss used the off year to reconnect with his children, to get in some fishing, to watch some games on Sundays. But he also shed some tears, pained at the idea of ending his career before he was ready to go. He made sure to stay in shape, just in case someone wanted to give him another chance.

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—John Harbaugh had just finished answering the masked man in front of him when a caped crusader from a children's network swooped in to ask how he really felt about his brother.

"I think that's a very provocative question from Nickelodeon," the Ravens coach said, not bothering to hide a smile. "I'm a little disappointed because I've spent a lot of time watching your network with my daughter over the years."

Silly stuff at media day for the Super Bowl. Nothing new about that, even if the humor has, by now, grown staler than a day-old French Quarter beignet.

There were no superheroes around younger brother Jim, while he grudgingly held court a short time earlier at a podium on the 43-yard-line of the Superdome. Probably too busy exploring the inner thoughts of Randy Moss or discussing tattoos with Colin Kaepernick.

Or maybe they just knew better than to get the San Francisco coach too wound up. Happened in Detroit last year, if you remember, with a postgame handshake.

Super Bowl brothers like no others

The guy who probably charts what he's going to have for breakfast a week ahead of time had his talking points ready for this ordeal. Fidgeting constantly as he sat on the podium, Jim Harbaugh did his best to entertain like his older brother, but it just wasn't going to happen.

"I could make something up," he said in response to one question. "But I'd be making it up. What do you want me to say and we can save you some time and put it right in your story."

That the Harbaugh siblings are a big story line in this Super Bowl isn't a surprise. They'll be across the sidelines from each other Sunday in the first brotherly coaching confrontation in 47 Super Bowls.

The odds of that happening? About 225-1 if you listen to John; impossible to quantify if you're his younger brother.

"I can add. I can subtract. I can do division and I can multiply. But now you're starting to step in a realm where I get challenged mathematically," Jim said. "Maybe like lightning striking?"

Whatever the odds, brother versus brother makes this a Super Bowl like no other. A sibling rivalry played out on one of the biggest stages in sports, and this time the loser doesn't have to mow the front lawn.

The father they learned so much from about coaching and life will be in the stands watching along with their mother Jackie. She tends to get upset at referees when calls don't go the family's way, but with a son running each team there is no one to root against in this game.

They're both the same, yet they're both so different. Jim is so intense he often looks like he is about to explode - and occasionally does. John can be so engaging - he got on a media conference call with his parents last week and asked them why they liked his younger brother better than him.

And while Jim acted as if he couldn't wait for his 60 minutes to be up Tuesday, John talked past his allotted time, answering questions with enthusiasm until a team official finally pulled him away. He campaigned for the late Ravens owner Art Modell to be voted in the Hall of Fame, talked about his daughter learning Japanese, and joked about how his parents always did like Jim best.

Lakers edge Hornets for third straight win



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dwight Howard scored 24 points, Kobe Bryant had 14 points and 11 assists in another pass-first performance, and the Los Angeles Lakers hung on to beat the New Orleans Hornets 111-106 Tuesday night for their first three-game winning streak in five weeks.

Earl Clark had 20 points and 12 rebounds for the Lakers, whose 18-point lead with 5 1/2 minutes to play dwindled to 102-101 with 2 minutes left before Clark and Steve Nash hit big shots to clinch Los Angeles' ninth straight win over New Orleans.

Eric Gordon scored 18 of his 25 points in the first half for the Hornets, who were all but finished before making a 16-2 run in an electric 2 1/2-minute stretch. New Orleans got within one point on Greivis Vasquez's running jumper, but Clark hit an inside layup and Nash buried a 3-pointer with 1:21 to play.

Steve Nash had 12 points and five assists, while Antawn Jamison scored 16 points. Four-time All-Star Pau Gasol had seven points, seven rebounds and seven assists as a reserve in the Lakers' final home game before a seven-game trip, their longest of the season, while the Grammy Awards take over Staples Center.

Ryan Anderson scored 11 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter for the Hornets, who had won eight of 12, including an impressive victory in Memphis two nights earlier at the start of their five-game trip. Anderson, Vasquez and Robin Lopez led the impressive late rally that just fell short, with Lopez finishing with 16 points and nine rebounds.

Rookie Anthony Davis had 18 points for the Hornets, who haven't beaten the Lakers at Staples Center since January 2009.

Steve Blake had two points and four assists in his first appearance for the Lakers since Nov. 11.

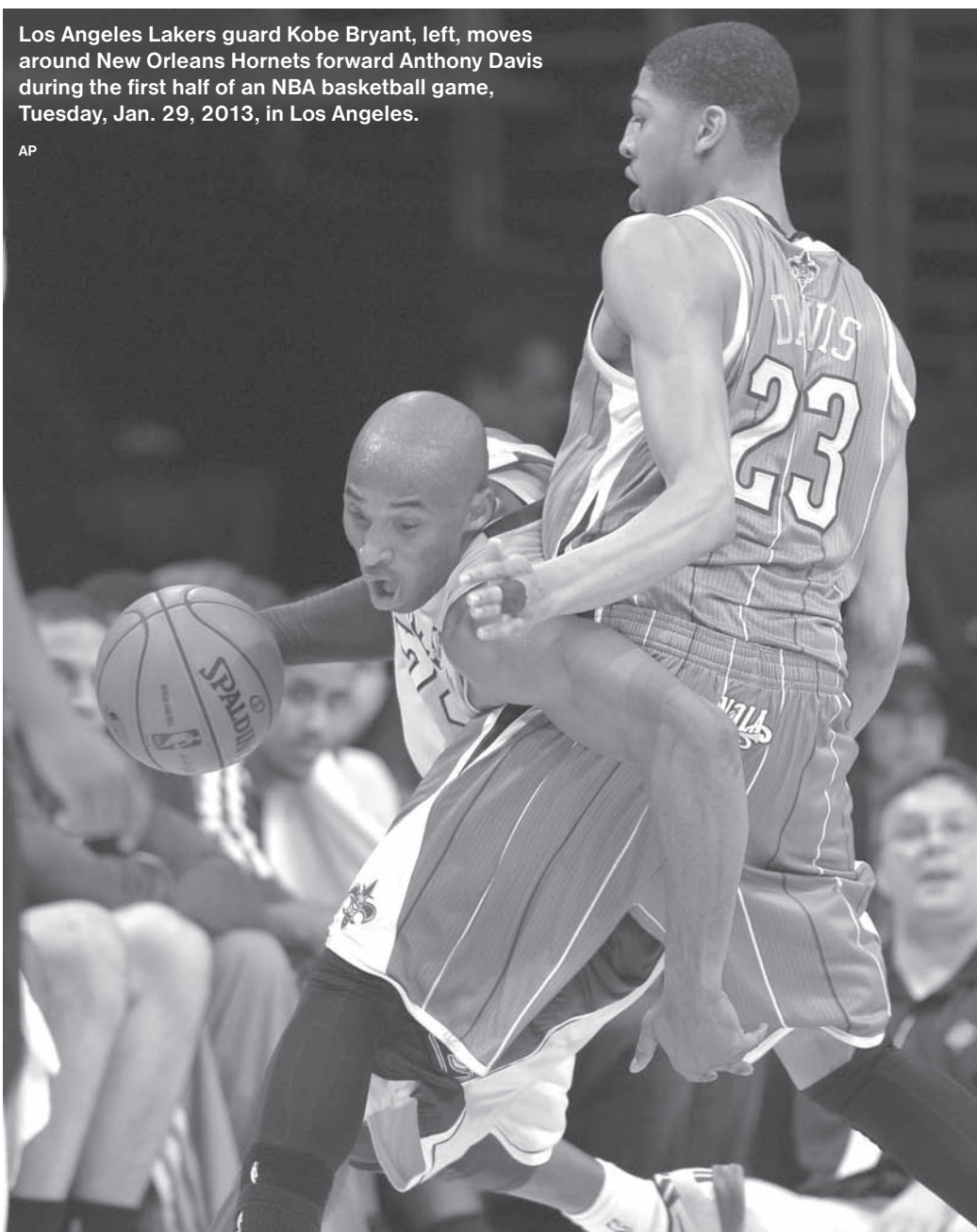
Until the frantic finish that nearly scrambled three solid quarters by the Lakers, Bryant reached new heights in his revamped role as Los Angeles' playmaker, racking up 10 assists in three straight games for just the fifth time in his career and the first time in four years. The fifth-leading scorer in NBA history has 39 assists in the Lakers' last three games, the biggest three-game total of his 17-season career.

Bryant also had eight rebounds, falling just short of a triple-double for the third straight game.

Two days after beating Oklahoma City in impressive fashion, the Lakers got right back to their improved form in the first half, holding the Hornets scoreless for 7:41 spanning

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, left, moves around New Orleans Hornets forward Anthony Davis during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2013, in Los Angeles.

AP



the first two quarters with a 17-0 run. New Orleans helped out by missing multiple open shots, but Los Angeles used superior ball movement and

an alert offensive game from Howard, who even made five of his six free throws in the first half—not bad for a 49.5-percent shooter at the line.

Trail Blazers 106, Mavericks 104

In Portland, LaMarcus Aldridge hit a turnaround jumper at the final buzzer and the Portland

Trail Blazers came back from a 21-point third-quarter deficit to beat the Dallas Mavericks 106-104 on Tuesday night.

Aldridge finished with 29 points and 13 rebounds for Portland, which trailed 101-94 with 2:18 left. J.J. Hickson had a season-high 26 points and 15 rebounds.

After Wesley Matthews made two free throws to pull the Blazers to 101-98 with 52 seconds to go, Nicolas Batum's 3-pointer tied the score.

Dirk Nowitzki answered with his own 3 with before Aldridge had a 3 to tie it at 104 with 4.9 seconds left. O.J. Mayo was called for charging with 1.5 seconds to go, and Aldridge hit his jumper after the inbound from Matthews with 0.2 seconds left for the victory.

Dirk Nowitzki finished with 26 points for Dallas, which had won six of its last eight games.

The Mavericks were without center Chris Kaman, who sustained a concussion in a collision during practice on Monday, according to coach Rick Carlisle. There was no timetable for Kaman's return. He is averaging 12.4 points and 6.2 rebounds this season.

The injury comes as the Mavericks have juggled their centers, starting a different one in each of their last three games. Kaman, Elton Brand and rookie Bernard James have each taken turns. Brandan Wright also plays at center for the Mavs.

James made his second straight start against the Blazers.

"It helps to have depth," Carlisle said. "We need all those

guys but this (Kaman's injury) is a big hit for us."

Bucks 117, Pistons 90

In Auburn Hills, Brandon Jennings scored 20 of his 30 points in the third quarter, leading the Milwaukee Bucks to a 117-90 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Tuesday night.

Mike Dunleavy had 17 points and Monta Ellis added 14 for the Bucks, who led by as much as 29 points.

Rookie Andre Drummond had 18 points and 18 rebounds for Detroit, while Greg Monroe scored 14 points. Drummond became just the second teenager to have an 18-18 game since 1985-86, joining Dwight Howard.

The Pistons led by 15 points late in the first quarter, were outscored 78-40 over the next 25 minutes.

Milwaukee had a 33-14 scoring edge in the second quarter, including Samuel Dalembert tipping in a missed free throw that had been taken with 0.1 seconds left.

Things got even worse in the third quarter, as Jennings - considered a possible replacement for the injured Rajon Rondo at the All-Star game, hit five 3-pointers. He accounted for all of the scoring during Milwaukee's 16-0 run that was capped by four 3s, pushing the Bucks' lead to 85-56 with 3:42 remaining in the period.

Detroit's defensive effort disappeared at that point, leading to a particularly ugly sequence in the fourth. Dalembert got open for back-to-back uncontested dunks in a half-court set, with John Henson making it three in a row on the next possession.

Warriors 108, Cavaliers 95

In Cleveland, Klay Thompson scored a career-high 32 points and the short-handed Golden State Warriors beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 108-95 on Tuesday night.

The Warriors were missing three starters—guard Stephen Curry (ankle), center Andrew Bogut (ankle) and forward Harrison Barnes (knee). Also, Carl Landry, one of the first players off Golden State's bench, didn't play because of a shoulder injury.

Golden State, playing the finale of a four-game road trip, didn't miss a beat. The Warriors shot 54 percent and made 11 of 16 of their 3-point attempts, including their first nine from beyond the arc. Golden State took control in the second quarter and built a 16-point lead in the second half.

Thompson was 13 of 24 from the field, including 6 for 8 on 3s. Jarrett Jack, starting at point guard in place of Curry, had 26 points and 12 assists, and David Lee had 20 points and 13 rebounds.

Iverson rules out basketball return in D-League

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Allen Iverson is taking a pass on the D-League.

Iverson, the 2001 NBA MVP, has turned down an opportunity to return to basketball with the Dallas Mavericks' Development League affiliate. He posted a series of tweets on Tuesday explaining his decision to decline an offer from Texas Legends' co-owner Donnie Nelson to join the team.

"I thank Donnie and Dallas for the consideration," Iverson wrote, "And while I think the D-League is a great opportunity, it is not the route for me."

Gary Moore, Iverson's manager, confirmed the decision with The Associated Press. Iverson was not available for an interview.

Moore was in Philadelphia visiting with Sixers owner Josh Harris and CEO Adam Aron about reconnecting Iverson with the 76ers. Iverson led the Sixers to the 2001 NBA finals and is firmly cemented as one of the franchise's all-time great players. He is the franchise leader in 40-point games (76), 3-pointers (885), and is second behind Hal Greer in points

(19,931). He had two stints with the Sixers and last played for them in 2009-10.

Moore said there are no immediate plans for the 37-year-old Iverson to retire.

"Once he does do that, I want to ensure that Josh Harris and Adam Aron know how much Allen appreciates what Philadelphia has meant to him, what the NBA has meant to him," Moore said, "And to someday, come back and be a consultant to them, to help them do certain things."

Aron and the Texas Legends did not immediately return messages for comment.

Under Harris' ownership, the Sixers have made increased efforts to bring back their past stars, like Hall of Fame standout Julius Erving. Erving returned to the Sixers as a strategic adviser in May and is available to the franchise on an as-needed basis.

Iverson earned a roaring standing ovation when he presented the game ball before Philadelphia's Game 6 win over Boston in last season's Eastern Conference semifinals. He watched the game from a

suite and his eyes watered up when he was shown later in the game on the big screen as the crowd, thousands wearing No. 3 jerseys, went wild and chanted, "MVP!" Iverson later posted on Twitter, "You can always come home again!!!"

Iverson has not played in the NBA since abruptly leaving the Sixers in March 2010 to deal with a sick daughter. He had a brief stop with a professional team in Turkey and has played exhibition games in China.

Dallas forward Dirk Nowitzki recently passed Iverson for 18th on the NBA's career scoring list.

Iverson believed it was more than the three years of NBA inactivity that has kept him from making a comeback. He blamed his behavior, which has included everything from coaching clashes to his infamous "Practice!" rant, for making teams shy about offering him a final chance.

"I realize my actions contributed to my early departure from the NBA," he wrote on Twitter. "Should God provide me another opportunity I will give it my all. My dream has

always been to complete my legacy in the NBA."

Moore, who knew Iverson as an 8-year-old boy, said Iverson was focused on staying in shape in case an NBA team made an offer.

"Allen is not so naive of a man that he doesn't understand full well why he's not in the NBA," Moore said. "It not, poor Allen. Allen has done things that have really landed him outside of the NBA. He understands that. He understands the mistakes he's made."

Iverson spent 10 seasons in Philadelphia before bouncing through Denver, Detroit, and Memphis. He was the No. 1 overall pick in the 1996 draft, a four-time scoring champion, and averaged 26.7 points yet never won a championship.

Moore denied Iverson has financial problems. Iverson recently struck a reported \$3 million financial settlement to help finalize his divorce with his wife, Tawanna.

"He's going through probably the most difficult of challenge he's ever faced in his life," Moore said. "There's no doubt he will get past that."

Twin wins for Kim in XGA tournaments

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Ki Soo Kim notched X-clusive Golfer's Association's 2012 Ace of Aces title after winning the two-day tournament held at Coral Ocean Point Resort.

Kim netted a 73 during the first round of the season-finale event last Jan. 26 and finished the second round on Jan. 27 with a better score of 69 for a two-day total of 142 and a one-stroke win over runner-up Joey Dela Cruz (71/72). Mike Sablan (73/70) also finished with a two-



2012 XGA Ace of Aces champion Ki Soo Kim, fourth left, poses with, from left, XGA secretary J.J. Cabrera, events runners-up Mike Sablan and Joey Dela Cruz, and club president Dave Cepeda during the awards banquet at Coral Ocean Point last Sunday.

round net 143, but was bumped into the third spot after a secret-hole tiebreaker.

Kim's final round score also held up against last Sunday's 20-player field, giving him the

2013 January Ace crown. He posted a 39 on the front nine and a 38 on the back side in the final

round for a gross 77.

Notably, Dela Cruz and Sablan finished both events in second and third place, respectively.

Dela Cruz started out with a 40 and tallied a 42 after the turn for an 82 raw that was trimmed down to a 72 net. Sablan penciled in a 45 after the front nine and caught fire down the homestretch, finishing the last nine holes with a 39 for a gross 84 that also factored into a 72 net. However, Dela Cruz received the nod for maintaining a lower handicap.

Besides the Top 3 finishers, the 2013 season opener also recognized closest to the pin side winners. The list includes Tony Benavente (hole No. 3) Albert Palacios (No. 7), Jay Cabrera (No. 12) and Dela Cruz

(No. 14).

Meanwhile, XGA is still accepting new members and has reduced its annual membership fee for newcomers from \$50 to \$30. Renewal for returning members is \$25. XGA is currently made up of about 30 members, and contrary to its name, the club is open to the public. Club polo shirts are also available for only \$25.

On the day of events, players are also required to foot the greens fee along with an added modest charge that goes toward the awards banquet, prize money, and incentives for the club.

For more information, contact XGA secretary J.J. Cabrera at 287-9478 or Gerald Guerrero at 285-4153.

25

From Page 28

the CNMI U14 Team's series of tryouts that started in September last year. He added that the first cut was made last week and the final one will be done later next month with only 21 players representing the Commonwealth to the AFC qualifiers in China.

In Beijing, the CNMI bets will be facing neighbor Guam, Chinese-Taipei, South Korea, and the host nation in the Group

G matches. Forty-one other nations are competing in the qualifiers and they are divided into four zones.

The West Zone has host Oman, Bahrain, Lebanon, Syria, and United Arab Emirates in Group A, while Group B includes host Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Jordan, Palestine, and Yemen. The Central and South Zone list has Group C host Nepal, Bhutan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Maldives, and Afghanistan and Group D's host Iran, India, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Sri

Lanka, and Kyrgyzstan.

Group E's host Myanmar, Brunei, Malaysia, Vietnam, the Philippines, and Timor Leste and Group F's Thailand, Laos, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Singapore comprise the ASEAN Zone, while the CNMI is on the East Zone, joining Group H's Mongolia, Hong Kong, North Korea, Macau, and powerhouse Japan. Only the Top 2 teams from each zone will advance to the AFC U-14 Championship 2014 Finals.

Salas admitted the Common-

wealth youth strikers are in the tough bracket, so they are training very hard to put up a good show against their favored opponents.

"Right now they are practicing every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. The training schedule will intensify as the competition gets nearer. We will also have them play against U15 and possibly U18 boys teams," Salas said.

Coach Jerh Angeles and the visiting mentors from Chelsea FC Soccer School (Hong Kong) are leading the players' training sessions.

"Skills-wise, our players' level has gone up, as they been playing for the past several years. They just need to work harder on teamwork and cohesiveness at the pitch, as they are not used to playing together because they came from different clubs. We are also trying to strengthen our younger players' mental toughness, as they will be psyche up by tougher and more experienced players from China, Chinese-Taipei, and of course Guam," Angeles said.

Meanwhile, NMIFA would

like to thank the players who tried out for the team and their supportive parents.

"We would like to thank parents and players who have come out during the practice sessions. We will continue to ask the parents' support as we train our players and get them ready for a high level competition. This will be our first AFC U14 Boys Championship Qualifiers and we hope to be competitive and do well. The teams in our pool are most likely highly skilled, but our players will do their best

LOPSIDED

From Page 28

output improved in the second half, they fell too far behind to muster a comeback.

The third quarter belonged to Erick Dela Rosa and Tony Bai, who hooked up for a dozen, and the Dolphins reserves brought it home in the end.

Aguilar led three other teammates in double figures with his 12 points, while Saludez managed 10 for MCS.

In the junior varsity game, Jeron Ano and Ethan Manalili paced MHS with their combined 9 points to lift the Dolphins to a 15-7 advantage after

the first quarter.

Mikah Bintz then heated up in the second quarter for MHS, while SIS's offense continued to stall, allowing the Dolphins to pull away at halftime, 30-14.

Bintz lead all scorers with his 17 points, while Andrew Johnson scrambled for 10 points on the short end.

Over at the MHS Gymnasium last Monday, Bryl Alegre muscled his way to 8 points from the tip to help give the Manta Rays an 18-7 favor in the varsity game.

The Rays then pounced their prey with a second quarter big push for a stout 44-15, margin at intermission.

Jack Aranda and Paul Mari-

ano hooked up for 15 in the exchange, while the Knights were once again limited to a single-digit output. John Saludez accounted for 7 points at midpoint.

Southern went on to amass a 71-24 lead after three quarters before pouring even more salt in the wound at garbage time. Alegre added 8 more points in the third period, as the Rays threw on a 43-point chunk going into the last 10 minutes of play.

Alegre and Emerson Feria co-led the Rays with 20 markers apiece, while Saludez managed a team-high 12.

In Monday's junior match, Tyler Palacios led a well-balanced attack with his 6 points,

as Southern took a 19-4 advantage.

The Geckos then laid an egg in the second quarter and were stuffed to just one basket, as the Rays pulled away at the break, 34-6. Gerald Flores and Zhi Peng Lin led Southern's surge with 9 points each.

The third quarter was a more evenly match, however SIS was unable to gain a big headway and still trailed, 13-44, heading into the last exchange. The Rays did not get dressed up for nothing and went on to run up the score all the way to the final buzzer.

Flores led Southern with his 11 markers, the same output Chris Cepeda had for SIS.

TUESDAY Varsity

MHS 87 - Aguilar 12, Macahito 11, Darag 10, Bai 10, Dai 9, Ogu-moro 8, Dela Rosa 8, Cayading 6, Soares 6, Yap 4, Cholyman 3.

MCS 40 - Saludez 10, Yamagata 9, Amog 8, Evangelista 6, Hyunson 6, Taguchi 1.

Scoring by quarters: 21-7, 45-14, 65-24, 87-40.

Junior Varsity

MHS 50 - Bintz 17, Manalili 9, Ano 6, Arciaga 4, De Guzman 4, Admana 2, Benavente 2, Gaspar 2, Ringor 2.

SIS 26 - Johnson 10, Cepeda 5, Kim 4, Ramsey 3, Lee 2, Hall 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-7, 30-14, 36-22, 50-26.

MONDAY Varsity

SSHS 114 - Alegre 20, Feria 20, Deguzman 18, Aranda 16, Mariano 15, Villagomez 7, Villanueva 7, Andrew 6, Javier 2.

MCS 30 - Saludez 12, Yamagata 6, Taguchi 5, Ogasawara 3, Hyunson 2, Amog 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-7, 44-15, 71-24, 114-30.

Junior Varsity

SSHS 71 - Flores 11, Raquipo 9, Palacios 9, Ferrer 8, Castro 6, Kintaro 6, Acopiado 5, Borromoe 5, Lin 4, Reyes 3, Rivera 3.

SIS 28 - Cepeda 11, H. Kim 9, Johnson 4, Y. Kim 4.

Scoring by quarters: 19-4, 34-6, 44-13, 71-28.

9-YEAR-OLD

From Page 28

in a sprint to the finish line, as the latter timed in at 1:04:57. Eda was also just over a minute behind third overall finisher and veteran runner Steven Pixley (1:01:39). Paul Viator and Charlin Sendin took the Top 2 finishes, as reported earlier after clocking in at 53:19 and 55:06, respectively.

Joining Eda in the age group

winner club were Joey Tudela, Karina Cerezo, Joseph Villacrusis, Jennifer Cui, Noel Altamirano, Emi Okazaki, Philip Boeve, and Xiuyun Hocog.

Tudela and Cerezo ruled the 19 to 29 age groups with times of 1:05:41 and 1:30:07, respectively. Villacrusis checked in at 1:10:14 to reign in the 30 to 39 division, sharing the top honors with Cui, who submitted 1:16:29. Altamirano had the second fastest time among age group winners with his 1:06:51

to prevail in the 40 to 49 division, while Okazaki topped the female category with her 1:17:40. Boeve and Hocog logged 1:16:31 and 1:35:05, respectively, to clinch top place in the 50-and-above age group.

In the 15K division, which brought runners to as far as Mt. Tapochao, Adam Hardwicke recorded the best time among age group winners with his 2:03:49. Hardwicke went on to win the 40 to 49 age group, while his running partner Douglas Hartig

came in just 10 seconds later to top the 50-and-above division.

Other age group winners in the 15K were U18's Seiya Eda (2:31:42), 19 to 29's Alexander Standish (2:06:29) and Kaitlin Mattos (3:01:27), and 30 to 39's Brian Flaherty (2:25:19) and Yumiko Mizuno (2:52:09).

Meanwhile, last weekend's 89 runners surpassed the 2012 turnout (58) of the Coffee Trail Run and the organizing Marianas Visitors Authority is hoping

for the continued growth of the annual event.

"The 6th Annual Marianas Coffee Trail Run was a success, by all accounts," MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas said in a press statement. "It's a beautiful course that is growing in popularity with local runners and walkers. We had at least one company sponsored employees to participate as part of its health and fitness promotion. Our ultimate goal is to grow

the number of off-island participants as well."

MVA thanked the following for supporting last weekend's event: Marianas Coffee Co., KFC Triathlon Club, American Memorial Park, KKMP, KMCV, Team PDI, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Lands, Jesus and B.J. Attao, Chuck and Anne Jordan, Gordon Marciano, and other volunteers.

PASCUAL

From Page 28

tardo shared low net cards of 157 after 36 holes and, by rule, scores were tracked backwards from hole No. 18 in sudden death until a champion was crowned. Pascual earned the nod after maintaining pars on holes No. 18 and 17.

Round 1 of the Ace of Aces tournament took place last Jan. 13 at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

Mando Guban led the pack midway through the ordeal with a low net 77 that positioned him a stroke ahead of Pascual, Matutino, and Nestor Siruelo.

Guban posted a 48 on the front and finished the back nine with a 43 for a 91 gross.

Matutino (92 gross, 44 front

and 58 back), Pascual (89, 44 and 45), and Siruelo (94, 48 and 46) were knotted up in second place, heading into the final round with Retardo (84, 44 and 40) also within range at fifth with a net 81. Fourteen players made up the field, including three guests.

The final round, which was also bannered as the group's January 2013 season opener, en-

sued at Marianas Country Club last Jan. 20.

Pascual started off with a 45 on the first nine holes and finished with a 44 for a raw card of 89 that adjusted into a 79 net.

Matutino (92, 47 and 45) also netted a 79 to keep pace with his fellow contenders and Retardo (79, 38 and 41) logged a gross low 79 for a

clutch 76 net. Guban (101, 50 and 51) faded in the final with an 88 net.

Course conditions during both rounds were dry, albeit very windy.

In the 2013 January Ace, Ramones' 71 net (81, 40 and 41) topped Division A, which includes golfers with a handicap of 0-16, and Fernandez's net 73 (93, 47 and 46) triumphed over

Division B (handicap 17-32).

Group A had 11 players, while Group B featured a field of 10.

The Ace of Aces finale includes the group's monthly Ace winners during the regular season. The total turnout in the final round was 15, 11 of who were monthly qualifiers.

For more information, visit the club's website at www.filtaga.com.

6th Annual Marianas Coffee Trail Run



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Four runners celebrate their 10K finish at the American Memorial Park during last Saturday's 6th Annual Marianas Coffee Trail Run.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Two runners make their way to the finish line.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A runner relaxes on the grass after completing the 10K race.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, Steve Pixley, David Banes, Janet King, Adam Hardwicke, and Doug Hartig pose for a group photo at the starting line.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Anne Jordan, co-owner of event sponsor Marianas Coffee, provides snack and drinks to runners cruising past their coffee plantation.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Akane Imaya is a few steps away from a runner-up finish in the 10K run.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Erico Castro has his sight on the finish line.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Joe Villacrusis slows down to check on spectators waiting at the finish line.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Janet King passes through one of the trails along the 15K course.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Second overall finisher (10K) Charlie Sendin raises his arms, as he nears the finish line.



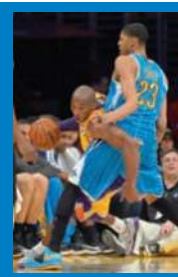
**Ray Lewis
denies
report
linking him
to PED**

24

Saipan Tribune Sports

**Lakers edge
Hornets for third
straight win**

25



28 THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

25 make first cut for AFC U14 qualifiers



CNMI U14 players jog around the Koblerville Elementary School Field to warm up for a friendly game against Guam's Sidekicks early this month.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Twenty-five players made the initial cut for the CNMI U14 National Team that will compete in the AFC U14 Championship 2014 Qualifiers this April in Beijing, China.

The list includes MP United FC's Wataru Tajima, Sun Joon Tenorio, Alex Park, Clayton Izuka, Joshua Abragan, and Steven Martin; Shirley's FC's Tae Eun Kim and Yaraweschigh Ythemar; Tan Holdings FC's Emmanuel Aniana, Mareko Tekopua, Jherico Tiamzon, Christopher Aninzo, Louie Bryle Calayag, and Albert Bergancia; Matansa FC's Euly James Ermitanio, Alan Hinson, David



Mafnas, Cody Leon, Marlouie Santiago, and Joshua De Leon; and Paire's Won Kwan Kim, Anthony Fruit, Cole Chambers, Logan Mister, and Dai Podziewski.

According to Northern Mariana Islands Football Association general secretary Edward Salas, the selected 25 were among the more than 40 players who joined

See 25 on Page 26

Lopsided wins for Dolphins, Rays

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Marianas High School and Saipan Southern

High accrued blowout wins as the 2012-2013 Marianas Inter-scholastic Sports Organization Boys Basketball League continued earlier this week.

The Dolphins soundly defeated the Mount Carmel School Knights in the varsity game at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last Tuesday, 87-40, while MHS routed Saipan Interscholastic School in the junior varsity match, 50-26. Then over at the MHS Gymnasium last Monday, Southern walloped MCS in the varsity pairing, 114-30, and the Manta Rays dominated the SIS Geckos in the junior varsity tiff, 71-28.

The season continues tomorrow at MHS with a freshmen, junior, and varsity triple feature between the Rays and the Ayuyus of Kagman High School. The freshmen tiff starts at 4pm, the JV game tips at 5:30pm, and the varsity match begins at 6:45pm.

The league's varsity standings show undefeated Southern alone in front with its three wins, followed by MHS (3-1), KHS



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Marianas High School's Hugon Cholymay pulls up for a shot against a pair of Mount Carmel Knights defenders during their varsity game in the MISO caging last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

(2-1), the Eucon International School Blazers (1-3) and MCS (0-4). JV rankings have unbeaten MHS (4-0) in first place, ahead of KHS (2-1), Agape Christian School's Torchbearers (2-2), Southern (1-2) and SIS (0-4); and the freshmen grouping has MHS (2-0) in front of KHS (1-1) and Southern (0-1).

In last Tuesday's varsity game, Dolphins scurried off to a quick 21-7 lead in the opening period before shifting into over

drive in the second quarter for a 45-14 separation.

John Darag captained MHS out of the gate with 8 points and Joseph Aguilar took the baton in the second frame and tallied 10. Frank Macahito also chipped in 8 markers in the first half.

MCS had trouble producing up to the midpoint with only John Gilbert Saludez scoring multiple baskets with his 6 markers and though the Knights

See LOPSIDED on Page 26

9-year-old leads winners in Coffee Trail

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The youngest runner in the 6th Annual Marianas Coffee Trail Run was also among the best, as 9-year-old Haruya Eda topped the U18 division of last Saturday's 10-kilometer race.

Eda, who will turn 10 this May, completed the race that started and ended at the American Memorial Park and brought runners to coffee plantations and trails on Navy Hill at the 1:02:45 mark. He was the fourth overall finisher in the shortest course of the annual event, placing ahead of the eight other age group winners in the 10K and more than 20 others.

The Saipan Community School honor student even defeated top female finisher Amy Sletten

See 9-YEAR-OLD on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Haruya Eda, left, beats Amy Sletten in a sprint to the finish line of the 10K race in last Saturday's 6th Annual Marianas Coffee Trail Run.

Pascual breaks 3-way tie to top Ace of Aces

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Larry Pascual outlasted Adony Matutino and William Retardo in two holes of sudden death to clinch the Filtaga

Larry Pascual, seen here gauging the hole before chipping on the greens during a local tournament, won Filtaga's 2012 Ace of Aces title.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Golfers Association's coveted 2012 Ace of Aces title at the conclusion of the club's two-round tournament last Jan. 20 at the Marianas Country Club.

In addition, Jacinto Ramones and Joseph Fernandez also came away as the group's 2013 January Ace winners at the weekend event, which was coupled with the final to both close out 2012 and continue right along into the calendar season.

Pascual, Matutino, and Retardo

See PASCUAL on Page 26